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GOLD MEDAL, Calcutta Exhibition, 1884.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—At Paris on Monday the Suez Canal Commission, after hearing the views of MM. Ferdinand and Charles de Lesseps, finally agreed to the clauses relating to the neutrality of the Sweet Water Canal. The object of the clauses is to prevent the possibility of Ismailia and Port Said being deprived of water, and the working of the canal thereby stopped. The work of the Commission is proceeding very slowly, and it is expected that the sittings will continue for another month.

To the French demands respecting the suppression of the *Bosphore Egyptian* Nubar Pasha has replied that the capitulations having been agreed to by the Porte, he cannot give a definite answer until after consultation with the Ottoman Government.

M. de Lesseps was on Thursday received as a member of the French Academy, and in a brief speech expressed his thanks for being received into so important a body. The reply was delivered by M. Renan.

ITALY.—A highly interesting discovery has just been made on the Forum of Rome by the celebrated German archaeologist, Professor H. Jordan, author of *Topographie der Stadt Rom im Alterthum*, in connection with some excavations which he has obtained the permission of the Ministry of Public Instruction to make around the remains of the Temple of Vesta. Since the discovery, some ten years ago, of this shapeless wreck of what was little else than the mere concrete core of the podium, nothing has been done to ascertain the exact line of the level on which it stood, or what, if any, remains of the external features of the stonework existed below the actual level of the Forum there. The object of Professor Jordan's excavations was to clear up these obscurities, and especially to ascertain the exact perimeter of the Temple, which would give also its exact position with reference to the House of the Vestals. This he has succeeded in doing; but in the progress of the work he made the unexpected and remarkable discovery, just within the outline of the podium, of a rectangular hole, measuring one metre on each side and two metres in depth, and lined on the sides and at the bottom with large slabs of peperino stone, some 20 centimetres in thickness. The bottom is perfectly closed, and the want of any aperture in it shows that it could have had no communication with the sewers. Professor Jordan is of opinion that this place is neither more nor less than the receptacle for that refuse which was allowed to accumulate during twelve months, and then, on the 15th of June, was carried through the Porta Stercoraria, and, according to Ovid (*Fast.*, book 6, line 700), thrown into the Tiber. If Jordan's opinion be correct, this refuse must have been simply the ashes of the sacred fire kept ever burning in the Temple, which were themselves considered as too sacred to be thrown out daily on to a common dust-heap. And with them may also have been the sweepings of the Temple, which, probably, were held in no less reverence than those of the Holy House of Loreto are in our own days.

Cardinal Lasagni died in Rome on Monday of apoplexy in the 71st year of his age, after having worn the red hat for three years only. He was Secretary of the Conclave when Leo XIII. was elected. According to a custom, which, however, is not a rule, the newly-elected Pope, on taking off his Cardinal's skull-cap for the last time, places it on the head of the Secretary of the Conclave, creating him there and then a Cardinal. For some unknown reason, Leo XIII. refrained from doing this, and put his *scudetto* into his pocket instead; and it was not until the Conclave of the 27th of March, 1882, that the Pope declared Lasagni to be one of the two Cardinals he had created and reserved *in petto* at the Conclave of the 13th of December, 1880. Cardinal Lasagni began his career in the Pontifical Diplomatic service as Attaché to the Apostolic Nunciature at Lyons, and at the time when the Italians were advancing to Rome in 1870 he was governing the province of Frosinone as Apostolic Delegate. In the opinion of the Liberal *Rassegna*, he was perhaps the most upright, frank, and disinterested of the Cardinals of the Curia. He was born in Rome on the 15th of June, 1814.

GERMANY.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs:—"I have reason to believe that Germany is preparing several new and great colonial surprises for the world. There is a great fancy here for Zanzibar; at all events, we are told that the relations between Germany and Zanzibar continue to be in a state of considerable tension. The corvette *Gneisenau* recently landed troops and burned the town of Looma, whose inhabitants had plundered a German merchant steamer. Private information has reached me that the German flag has been hoisted on one or two points of the east coast of Africa. Advice from Zanzibar state that the German flag has not been hoisted, but only shown on the Somali coast."

The Lower House of the Prussian Diet on Wednesday rejected, by 162 against 128 votes, the proposal of Dr. Windthorst for the repeal of the law stopping the temporalities of the Catholic clergy. In the course of the debate preceding the vote, Herr von Gossler, the Minister of Public Worship, made a speech opposing the motion. He said that since 1884 nothing had happened in Posen-Gnesen to induce the Government to abandon the negative attitude hitherto observed by it with regard to this matter. The only means of bringing about the repeal of the law was to make a new appointment to the vacant archbishopric. This had indeed at one time been almost an accomplished fact, but the actual consummation was prevented partly by Polish influences, and partly by other causes. It was necessary that the Archbishop of Posen should feel himself to be a Prussian prelate and a Prussian subject, that he should seek his sphere of action within the domain of ecclesiastical affairs, and that he should avoid those rocks on which his predecessor had suffered wreck. The Minister concluded by saying that so long as the title "Primate of Poland," applied by the Catholic Church to the Archbishop of Posen, had a real meaning, it was the duty of the Prussian Government to see that the claim implied was not in fact conceded. The House also rejected by 169 against 127 votes the motion for exempting from punishment priests who say mass or administer the sacraments without due authority.

RUSSIA.—The special correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Krasnovodsk, on the Caspian, on April 5, gives us an account of the new Russian railway which is to start from that place through Askabad, Sarakhs, Herat, and Candahar, to the Indus. On the one hand it is stated that the object of the line is to connect England with India, and be a formidable rival to the Suez Canal. When the line is completed and connected with the Indian railways, passengers will book at Victoria or Charing-cross, and go via Cologne and Vienna to Odessa; from that by steamer to Batoum; and then by railway, now existing, via Tiflis to Baku. Here a steamer will take the passengers across the Caspian to Krasnovodsk and after that there will be no break in the line, which will go through Askabad, Sarakhs, Herat, and Candahar, on to the Indus. It has been calculated that the journey by this route could be done in about eleven days. On the other hand, the main object of the railway is asserted to be to connect Russia with India. From Askabad the line is to be continued to Merv and Sarakhs. From Sarakhs to Herat is 200 miles, and from Herat to Quetta is about 400 miles. The line to Sarakhs will, it is expected, be completed in about four years' time. The objects to be accomplished then are openly spoken of by Russians. Military officers have given their opinions that an attack upon India is to be attempted.

The commemorative festival of SS. Methodius and Cyrilus was celebrated at St. Petersburg, on Saturday, with a great procession of several hundred popes and singers from the Kasan to the Isaac Cathedral and back. The Emperor and Empress were present at the Cathedral for half an hour.

A Vienna telegram states that great discontent has been caused by the closing of the Armenian schools in the Caucasus:—

"At Tiflis several of the school sisters fell ill of grief on losing their situations and prospects. One committed suicide at Chuchi, and two others died. These two ladies were graduates of German Universities. People have been arrested in great numbers for making noisy demonstrations against the closing of the schools, and others have been punished for refusing to hoist bunting outside their houses on the occasion of Russian festivals. All this has made Prince Dondoukoff-Korsakoff very unpopular.

"It is announced from Warsaw that the Government is strictly enforcing the decree which prohibits the use of any language but Russian in elementary schools, and, further, that the Jewish rabbis will for the future be obliged to pass an examination in Russian before being allowed to exercise their ministry. It is also announced that the regulation which in Poland excludes all foreigners from serving in any capacity whatever on railways is about to be extended to the whole Empire."

BELGIUM.—At Tuesday's sitting of the Chamber of Representatives M. Bernaert, the Premier, read a letter from King Leopold requesting authority from the House to assume the title of Sovereign of the Congo State, which the letter explained would be completely independent. M. Bernaert moved that his Majesty be authorised to assume the title in question, and the Chamber referred the matter to the Committee for examination.

INDIA.—The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left Meerut on Saturday for Simla, where they will remain for a week. The Duke will afterwards take four months' leave and proceed to England with the Duchess, but will return to India at any moment on his services being required in the event of complications.

The Papal Decree abolishing the ecclesiastical patronage of the King of Portugal in seven Vicariates Apostolic in India is to take effect on the 1st of June. A further Decree is expected abolishing the Padroado (Primacy of Goa) over the remainder of British India.

EGYPT.—Sir Gerald Graham reports that on Saturday he made a reconnaissance in force from Souakim on Hasheen, Deberet, and the Valley of Khor Aberot, leaving camp at five in the morning with two regiments of cavalry, horse artillery, fifty mounted infantry, and the 15th Sikhs. The column from Handoub, composed of Australians, mounted infantry, and screw guns, moved on Deberet by the pass through Waratab hills. Mounted infantry and native scouts operating from Otaw towards the same point were supported by half battalion Scots Guards. Parties of the enemy were seen by mounted infantry, retiring southward. The force retired at eleven, burning the village of Hasheen, which showed signs of recent occupation.

The Mahdi's banner, taken at General McNeill's zereba by a company of the Berkshire Regiment, has been intrusted to Captain Lynch, who will, on his arrival in England, ask the Queen to accept it.

All the sick and wounded are doing well. The heat, however, is becoming daily greater, and the north wind, which tempered it, is becoming less regular. It is impossible, shortly after sunrise, to bear the hand in the water of the iron reservoir tanks.

Great complaints have been made of the postal arrangements made for the Indian contingent. The last letters received at Souakim from India are dated the 14th ult. A weekly service is promised for the future.

The report of the defeat of the Mahdi's troops near El Obeid is confirmed. The Mahdi is said to be forcibly collecting camels for his advance against his rival. Setley Osman, near Kassala, is said to have written to the Mahdi:—"I have 60,000 men, and will march against you if you continue to disturb the country." Berber is also reported to be in revolt.

Sixty-four engineers, with two officers, Captain Cotter and Lieutenant Baldwin, left Alexandria last week for Wady Halfa on duty in connection with the Sarras Railway. Forty-four of them are enrolled as civilian platelayers, paid £2 weekly each. Sufficient railway plant for fifty miles has arrived from England. It is to be used in the extension of the present Nile line from Wady Halfa and Sarras to Farik, not far from Dal. It is expected that the railway will be completed some time in July. Transport carts with broad wheels, such as will travel easily over the sand, are about to be sent to Upper Egypt for use in future operations in the Desert. On Thursday the heat was 112 in the shade at Dongola.

According to the latest official return the strength of the Egyptian army serving south of Wady Halfa

is 150 officers and 3,290 non-commissioned officers and men, with 10 guns, 34 horses, and 255 camels.

A messenger who has reached Dongola from Khar-toum reports a brisk sale of captured slaves at that place, and states that the Christians taken prisoners by the Mahdi have been sent to Abbah Island. Kassala and Sennar continue to hold out.

It has been decided that it is at present inadvisable to persist in pushing the campaign against the Mahdi as far as Khartoum. Osman Digna having now been decisively smashed, the railway will be pushed forward to Tambouk, Sinkat, or some other hill station which is best adapted for a sanatorium for the garrison needed to hold Souakim. Beyond that point the railway will not be made, at least until the hot weather is over. The bulk of General Graham's force will be withdrawn as soon as circumstances permit. On the Nile, the movement of our troops will, it is stated, be governed by a due regard for the protection of Upper Egypt from a possible northward development of the revolutionary movement headed by the Mahdi.

The *Daily News* has published the continuation of the narrative of events in Khartoum during the siege, as related to a correspondent at Korti by a soldier of the Egyptian Army. He says that the plan of the traitors, of whom General Gordon had been warned, was to deliver over the city to the Mahdi whenever British troops drew near. The number of the traitors increased as the hope of rescue faded:—

"Another thing, and this decided many: after the battle of Abou Klea the rebels went down and collected all the helmets they could find. They showed these to us, waving them outside the trenches and saying, 'Thus and thus have we eaten up the Ferinchees.' Thus even faithful men were sorely tempted and became sick at heart. At night the enemy used to be often at the south end, at speaking distance; and we used to revile each other. We were called the accursed rebels who speak evil of the fathers and mothers to the third and fourth generation. We would call them 'sons of dogs' and shout 'Allah bou rou Gehenna, ye rebellious ones; malediction on your fathers; depart to Gehenna!' and they would make answer, 'Ye are slaves of the infidels; ye too are infidels, as you do not believe in our book. We will eat you up, and wipe you from the face of the earth of Allah.' Thus and thus did we call out to each other during the long night."

The last river trip we are told was made by Tujerat Mahaba. "He had on board two gun Krupp. He started at 7 a.m.; at ten he met a nuggar full of rebels. They had a gun. They fired at each other for an hour. At last the rebel boat sunk. He was still under a heavy fire till he reached Shambat. At Bou the rebels had one Krupp, four guns higher up, and on mitrailleuse or Nordenfeldt. He ran aground." Tujerat Mahaba here entered the correspondent's tent, and made the following statement:—

"The last words Gordon said were, 'Bring the English when you come back, if only three or four; but I was never to see him more. I have left my wife and children at Khartoum! He has told you I sank the rebel vessel. Well, I was fired at from all directions. I rammed her. I had 150 soldiers on board; she had plenty. Down they all went—it was a glorious sight! None escaped. On passing Rezaree I was fired at by 150 riflemen, but continued my voyage till I got to Gebel-el-Sheik-el-Taeb (the good sheikh). The shots fell short. On the river, near Mashed-el-Hamak—six hours from Khartoum—I went upon a rock; then three mountain guns opened fire on me. Three hours afterwards three steamers came, the *Boudia*, *Telehoweah Tepagny*, and *Sophia*. Troops were landed, and we killed many Arabs."

"Latterly the chief men of the town were traitors; all were concerned in opening the gates. They were afraid of starving. This I tell you, and I do not lie. All the white and all the black women are now made slaves. My poor wife, I shall never see her again. When I say white I mean also those whose mothers were Abyssinian and fathers European; and there were some Turkish ladies who wore the achmet—wives of officers. All will now be slaves. I have finished. I must leave you."

Dr. Cameron, M.P., has just published a series of interesting results of the inquiry into the army supply system in Egypt. As to the flour sent in two ships—the *Osprey* and the *Empusa*—it arrived in hard solid blocks, the whole contents of the sack being in many cases an unbroken lump. Each sack stood like a solid pillar of plaster of Paris. An attempt was made by breaking up and sifting to utilise the flour, but the bread was uneatable. As to 1,100 tons of hay sent out for English horses, "the Commissary-General stated that he never saw a truss of this brand that was not more or less damaged. His successor in Egypt said that hundreds of the bales were filled with outside wrappers of hay, and that he saw issued bales containing pieces of brick, stones, rubbish, and refuse straw rolled into hard lumps." The officer at Ismailia found in many of them lumps of whitish clay and roots. Captain Lea said it was the worst quality he ever saw in his life. One lot of hay was resold at a loss of £3,058. A ship was fitted at great cost for mules, "the mangers being in many cases fixed up where the mules' tails were to be." Mules which arrived too late for use in Egypt were sold to the Indian Government at £25 to £27 10s. a head, though Lord Hartington had authorised the sale at £15. In another case "forage for the mules had been previously embarked; but all the bran had been placed on board one vessel and all the barley on the other." Colonel Lanyon wrote that "out of 1,100 mules purchased there were 758 unfit for work when landed." One thousand five hundred Turkish pack-saddles were purchased and never used.

News comes from Ottawa of the fall of Fort Pitt, and the massacre—it is feared—of the whole party of defenders with their leader, a son of the late Charles Dickens. A number of Indians having been stated to be going down the river towards Battleford, the flying column is pushing on to its relief.

A telegram from Copenhagen states that the news has arrived there of an avalanche having fallen in the eastern part of Iceland, and destroyed fifteen houses, and killed twenty-four persons.

KITCHENS MADE LIGHT BY MEANS OF CHAPPUIS' DAYLIGHT REFLECTORS.—The cost is from 25s.; the saving in gas or oil soon makes up for that outlay. Prospectuses sent on receipt of two stamps, addressed (J.B.) Chappuis, patentee, 69, Fleet-street, London.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

The following telegram from Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Lumsden relative to the fight between the Russians and Afghans at Ak Tépe, was received by the Government early on Tuesday morning:—

"SIR P. LUMSDEN TO EARL GRANVILLE.—(Received April 21, 8.30 a.m.)

"*Tripoli*, April 17, 1885.

"Your Lordship's telegram of 13th.

"General Komaroff's account of attack on Penjdeh is considered incorrect:—

"1. General Komaroff says:—'On 25th March one detachment approached Tash Kepri on our bank of Kushk.' Reply: Tash Kepri is Turki for Pul-i-Khisti. General Komaroff's claim to their bank of Kushk is untenable. The left bank of Kushk had always been held by Afghans, and was never in Russian occupation. On February 20 Russians located an outpost of twenty-five Yulatan Turcomans at Kizil-Tépe, a mound one mile north of Pul-i-Khisti, and about same distance from nearest point of Kushk River, and from its junction with Murghab. This had always remained extreme limit of Russian advance within their lines of vedettes. The Russian cavalry detachment alluded to did advance against Pul-i-Khisti on the 25th, but retired before reaching that place when warned by Afghan commander, as on February 20.

"2. General Komaroff states:—'Near the bridge I found an entrenchment occupied by Afghans.' Reply: This position was occupied by Afghans previous to General Komaroff's advance and to the agreement mentioned in your Lordship's telegram of the 17th March.

"3. General Komaroff says:—'In order to avoid a conflict I placed my troops five versts from Afghan position.' Reply: This can only refer to main body, as Russian troops were in Kizil-Tépe, which is one mile from Afghan position, and the Russian vedettes were considerably in advance of that.

"4. General Komaroff says that:—'When Afghans had convinced themselves that we had no intention of attacking them, they began each day to come nearer to our camp.' Reply: So far from Afghans being convinced of General Komaroff's innocent intentions, the continued and irritating daily attempts to excite hostility convinced Afghans of Russian determination to provoke conflict, and induced what appeared to them the military necessity of extending their defensive position.

"5. General Komaroff states:—'On 27th March Afghans sent against one company, which was charged with covering a reconnaissance, three companies with a cannon and some cavalry.' Reply: A reconnaissance in force itself meant hostile intention. A Russian company meant 250 men—more than equivalent to three Afghan companies aggregating 225 men. On 27th two bodies of Russian troops simultaneously advanced, Colonel Alikhanoff with cavalry pushed past Pul-i-Khisti, and Russian infantry penetrated the right flank of Afghan position on right bank of Murghab. Colonel Alikhanoff only retired when intercepted by Afghan cavalry some four miles in rear of Afghan position, and Russian infantry only when Afghan commander drew up three companies and warned Russian officer that if he advanced further he would be fired upon.

"General Komaroff's chief of staff, at interview of 29th, called Colonel Alikhanoff's advance merely a pleasure trip, but was informed that the Afghan commander viewed it in the most serious light.

"6. General Komaroff states:—'Afghan audacity and arrogance increased by degrees.' Reply: It may have been so, but if so it was entirely caused by Russian action, as the Afghans did all they could to avoid collision, and it was solely owing to their patience and forbearance during two months of incessant irritation that peace had been preserved so long. The Afghan commander's courteous reply of the 29th to General Komaroff's ultimatum proves his wish to the last to avoid conflict.

"7. General Komaroff says:—'On the 28th Afghans occupied a height which commanded left flank of our camp; began to throw up entrenchments there, to establish a post of cavalry behind our line, and placed a picket at gun-shot distance from our fort.' Reply: It was the case that the Afghan commander did on the 28th, after the occurrence of the hostile reconnaissance on the 27th, place a post of observation on the hills on right bank of Murghab to give notice of any like fresh Russian advance on that flank, but this post was withdrawn the next day.

"8. General Komaroff says:—'On 29th I sent to Afghan commander an energetic summons, &c., and I received an answer that by the advice of the English he refused to retire across the Kushk.' Reply: The fact itself is reported to me to be totally incorrect, and nowhere in the Afghan commander's reply is any such statement. On the contrary, the wording is distinct. 'I have duly received your letter regarding the withdrawal of certain pickets. As I had received orders from the Governor of Herat to consult Captain Yate, who has been deputed to Penjdeh by Sir Peter Lumsden, in such matters, I showed him your letter. Captain Yate afterwards had an interview with Colonel Zakrebewski, and informed me of the conversation which had taken place between them. Be it known to you that I must loyally obey the orders I have received from his Highness the Amer. I can in no way do anything contrary to the orders of my Sovereign. Of course, in matters of detail, such as alterations in position of advanced pickets and vedettes posted in front of the troops, I am prepared to come to an arrangement with you with a view to the avoidance of any risk of conflict.'

"9. General Komaroff says:—'I again addressed a private letter couched in friendly terms.' Reply: The letter in question was never seen by any officers of the Commission, but Captain Delashoe was told that a letter had been received a few hours before Russian attack on 30th. I have now called on Sepah Salar for copy of second letter.

"10. General Komaroff states:—'On 30th, to support my demands, I marched with my detachment against the Afghan position, counting still on pacific result, but artillery fire and cavalry attack compelled me to accept combat.' Reply: Russians advanced to attack of Afghan position, and, of course, Afghans were obliged to defend themselves. Certainly the engagement was not commenced by artillery fire as stated by General Komaroff, as infantry firing was heard, continuing several minutes, before the first gun."

The *Daily Chronicle* has received the following telegram from its special correspondent with Sir Peter Lumsden. The despatch has come by way of Allahabad, and was forwarded from that place on Wednesday night:—

"Further details have come to hand of the fighting on the Kushk, and the decided tendency of this later information is to place the action of the Russians in an infinitely worse light than did our previous knowledge of the incident.

"The fight, it is now certain, was of a very desperate character indeed, notwithstanding that the Afghans were so greatly outnumbered. What they lacked in numbers, however, they made up in bravery, fighting splendidly until the last, when the superior strength of the Russians compelled them to take to flight. The Afghan general set a worthy example to his troops, and was throughout in the fore-front of the fighting, being twice wounded.

"The treachery of the Russians, however, which forced the fighting, has created infinitely less excitement and indignation here than the report, which unfortunately there seems only too much reason to believe to be true, that Colonel Alikhanoff, whether on his own account or acting for his superiors is not quite clear, caused a reward of one hundred tomans to be offered for the head of either of the British officers with the Afghan force at the time of the fighting."

The semi-official *Journal de St. Pétersbourg* says that Sir Peter Lumsden's accounts of what occurred at Penjdeh are taken from an Afghan source, and therefore not to be relied on in opposition to General Komaroff's statements.

St. Petersburg advices received in Vienna state that the Emperor has telegraphed his thanks to General Komaroff and the soldiers under him for the bravery they displayed in the fight on the Kushk river. His Majesty at the same time has, it is said, sent fifty crosses of the Order of St. George, begging General Komaroff to distribute them to the officers as he may think fit. General Komaroff has himself received the decoration of the Order of St. George of the Fourth Class.

Lieut.-General Hamley writes as follows to the *Times* with reference to the significance of making concessions to Russia on the Afghan frontier:—

"In seizing the junction of the rivers Kushk and Murghab at Penjdeh, the Russians have not only deprived the defenders of Afghanistan of a position of great value both tactically and strategically, but have also secured for themselves—1. The principal road to Herat, which lies along the Kushk valley to an easy pass leading into the valley of the Heri Rood at Kushan. 2. The power of turning the pass opposite the Zulfikar ford if occupied for the defence of Herat. 3. The command of the chief road (that described in No. 1 is part of it) between Herat and Balkh, and thence to Cabul, which passes through Penjdeh; leaving the communications by this road between those Afghan towns dependent on the permission of the Russians. 4. The means of thereby advancing from the Caspian upon Cabul. 5. Several hill-roads on Kushk leading by other passes on Herat. By seizing the Zulfikar ford a way from the Persian town of Meshed (where two great high-ways through Khorassan meet) to the Afghan bank of the Heri Rood is secured. Any concession of the pass opposite the ford to the Afghans is illusory; for their position there would be turned, not only by the route from the Kushk mentioned in No. 2, but by other roads up the valley of the Heri Rood. If the Russians should retain possession of these points they will be able to march on Herat by many roads, not one of which was open to them so long as the Afghans held Penjdeh, Akrobat, and the Zulfikar ford, and to maintain throughout perfect co-operation and communication between the columns moving by the two valleys of the Kushk and the Heri Rood. From Penjdeh they can also direct their forces on Cabul as well as on Herat. The distance of Penjdeh from Herat is about ten days' march; from the Zulfikar ford about seven."

IRELAND.

The Prince and Princess of Wales on Monday returned to Dublin from Killarney. At Tralee their Royal Highnesses had a cordial reception, but at several stations, notably Listowel and Newcastle West, the loyal greetings were marred by hostile demonstrations, crowds of Nationalists hooting, groaning, and displaying black flags. On arriving at Limerick, however, the Prince and Princess had a magnificent reception. Several addresses were presented to the Prince, who, in reply, expressed a hope that on another occasion he might be able to renew his acquaintance with their various institutions, and to see something of their labours and their progress. There was a remarkable scene of enthusiasm at the departure from Limerick, and on reaching Dublin the Prince and Princess were warmly greeted as they drove to the Viceregal Lodge. The Nationalists had organised a procession to carry black flags through the city on Monday night; but the few who assembled dispersed as soon as the police appeared in force.

On Tuesday between eight and nine thousand children belonging to the Sunday-schools assembled in the Viceregal grounds, Dublin, and presented to the Princess of Wales an address of welcome, in an album form, handsomely bound in the Danish colours. Prince Albert Victor also received an ornate card-plate from the boys of the Sunday-schools. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Earl and Countess Spencer went in the afternoon to Panchestown Races, where their Royal Highnesses were most enthusiastically received, but the rain which fell seriously interfered with the pleasure of the visit.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the Prince and Princess of Wales abandoned their intention of visiting Panchestown again on Wednesday. Prince Albert Victor and Lord Spencer, however, went down by special train from Kingsbridge. In the afternoon the Prince visited the constabulary depôts in Phoenix-park, where he inspected the men, and expressed his satisfaction with their soldier-like bearing and discipline. In the evening the Royal party attended the citizens' ball, for which the Royal Dublin Society lent their premises at Ball's Bridge. There were 6,000 people present, and the rooms were most tastefully decorated.

The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Belfast from Dublin on Thursday afternoon, and had a great reception from the men of Ulster, who turned out in enormous numbers in the streets of the decorated city, and exhibited an almost embarrassing fervour of enthusiasm as the Royal party drove to Ulster Hall. Here about thirty addresses were presented to the Prince, who, in his reply, expressed a hope that the example of contented loyalty to the Throne and Constitution, and the determined spirit of enterprise and perseverance which had been shown by the inhabitants of Belfast, might have influence on all classes of Irishmen, and stimulate those peaceful and earnest exertions upon which the future of Ireland so largely depends. There was a fresh display of almost wild enthusiasm when their Royal Highnesses left the hall, and continued their journey to the quay, where the Prince and Princess embarked on board the Royal yacht *Osborne*, where they remained during the night.

While two farmers, James McCabe and Thomas Quinn, were returning on Monday night to their home in Camlough, near Newry, they were attacked and savagely beaten. McCabe has received serious wounds, and his depositions have been taken. Two men named Crelly and Burns have been arrested. The outrage is believed to be of a party nature.

The outhouses on the farm of Patrick Phelan, who resides near Tramore, were set on fire on Saturday night, and a mare, a foal, and three cows were burned to death. The damage is estimated at over £300. Mr. Phelan had until recently acted as president of the Tramore Branch of the Land League. A Limerick correspondent states that threatening notices have been sent to the guardians of Newcastle West Union for voting against the Nationalist candidate for the office of solicitor to the Board. The notices, which were signed "Moonlighter," and "Dynamiter," warn "traitors" to have their coffins ready, as men are being sworn to shoot them.

At a meeting of the Synod of the Church of Ireland on Tuesday, the following letter, addressed to the Secretaries, was read by the President:—"Whitehall, April 18, 1885.—Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., pointing out, by the desire of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, that in a letter from this Department of the 19th of May, 1884, the said Church was erroneously designated the Protestant Episcopal Church of Ireland, and I have to express his regret that through a clerical error the erroneous designation was given.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, GODFREY LUSHINGTON."

Much alarm was caused in St. Eugene's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Londonderry, at early mass on Sunday by the conduct of a lunatic among the congregation. The man, who is named Patrick Leech, and who has been only a fortnight out of the asylum, approached the altar-rails at communion-time. In consequence of the strangeness of his conduct he was refused the sacrament. He thereupon walked down the church shouting in the most extraordinary fashion and declaring that he was damned. He became very violent, and resisted the efforts of five policemen to remove him. He succeeded in drawing a constable's sword, and made an attack upon him with it. The constables, after a good deal of trouble, secured him; not, however, before his hand was severely cut.

Dr. Cameron has issued a report of the state of the tenement houses in Dublin, which contains some startling disclosures. It has been ascertained that of the 24,211 inhabited houses in Dublin 7,234 are occupied by two or more families; and that of the 54,725 families in Dublin, no fewer than 32,202 live in the 7,234 houses, which contain 48,116 rooms, thus giving a room and a half on an average to each family, some of whom are twelve in number. The rents received for the rooms are almost incredible. The tables show that in four Dublin streets there are 1,074 families occupying 1,482 rooms in 175 houses, for which they pay a yearly rent of £8,311 11s., while the houses are valued at £8,677 10s. For one house, valued at £8, the eight families who occupy it pay £82 a year rent. Dr. Cameron speaks of Dublin as a decayed city, not in the least resembling Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, and most other British cities, the working classes living chiefly in decayed old houses erected formerly for the nobility and landed gentry classes. In no city in the empire have so many unhealthy houses been closed under the Public Health Act. Four hundred and thirty cellar dwellings, and hundreds of tenement rooms in damp houses, have been closed up. Stables in lanes behind fashionable squares and streets have been converted into dwelling-houses, and the huddling together of persons of both sexes and all ages in a single apartment is attended by obvious evils. Dr. Cameron states that a large number of the tenement houses are owned by gentry living in England and abroad, whose houses are let on lease to middlemen, who sublet the rooms and make large profits.

The most remarkable document which, for many years, has issued from the pen of a Roman Catholic Bishop is in the form of a pastoral from Dr. Nulty, Bishop of Meath, which was read at all the masses in the chapels throughout the diocese of Meath on Saturday. The Bishop begins saying that before the letter reaches his flock he shall be far away on his journey to Rome. "I think," says Dr. Nulty, "I see the strongest reasons for anticipating from the Conference of the Irish Bishops with the authorities at Rome large and exceptional beneficial results for our country, as well as for our religion. The obligations and duties which Irishmen owe to the Holy See have of late been a little unsettled and thrown into a state of painful uncertainty, in which they would seem apparently to clash with the fulfilment of the duties we owe our country. One of the leading results of these Roman conferences will be to ascertain, to define, and settle with clearness, precision, and certainty all that the Holy See expects from us. The lessons taught by the experience of several years plainly show that, in the present excited and suspicious state of public feeling, grave and dangerous complications and misunderstandings might at any moment crop up between the Irish nation and the Holy See, and no one could calculate or fix a limit to the deplorable consequences that might result from them, and enemies would never at any time be wanting who would labour might and main to widen the breaches and aggravate the misunderstanding

that would then arise. In the excitement inseparable from such controversies it would be easy to persuade a jealous and credulous race like ours that the Pope had acted on erroneous prejudices or one-sided information. Considering how desperately bent the nation always seems to be to secure all the social and political ameliorations of its condition that are within its grasp, a fatal misconception of this kind would be quite enough to drive it into an attitude of dogged and sullen disobedience. The consequence that might then follow God only knows. It is a very awful fact that great Catholic nations like France, England, and Scotland have practically apostatised from the faith. That fact is surrounded with very salutary as well as with very unpleasant warnings. I do not believe that the Irish nation will ever follow their fatal example; but I do believe it would be nothing short of criminal rashness to expose it to the danger or temptation of danger. I can find no evidence of a Divine promise made to any nation any more than to our own guaranteeing to it the indefeasibility of its faith in all circumstances. Neither can I see any solid grounds for believing in a special exceptional Providence which would save Irish multitudes any more than Irish individuals from renouncing their allegiance to the Church in a paroxysm of passion, either in retaliation for some imaginable interference with their political freedom, or to avenge an insult or an affront which they had rashly assumed had been offered to them by the Holy See."

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

LORD GRANVILLE, replying to a question by Lord CARNARVON, said that he would on Tuesday make a statement to the House as to the Government policy. A telegraphic despatch was received from Sir Peter Lumsden on Friday, the character of which was confirmatory of his own account of the case, and in contradiction to that of General Komaroff. The Government were expecting further details from Sir Peter Lumsden. Lord RIXON, in moving the second reading of the Honorary Freedom of Boroughs Bill, explained that its object was to allow Corporations which had not hitherto had that power to confer the honorary freedom of their boroughs on persons whom they wished to so honour. The Bill was read a second time.

The Solicitors (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee with amendments. Lord DERBY, in reply to Lord SIDMOUTH, stated that the new arrangement made with reference to the salary of the Lieutenant-Governor of Malta was a saving, and not an increase, in the local charges of that island; and, in answer to the same noble Lord, he said that the publication in the *London Gazette* of a list of the nobles of Malta whose titles had been recognised by Her Majesty would not, as he was informed on the authority of Sir Albert Woods, give those noble gentlemen any precedence in this country. The Duke of EDINBURGH expressed his opinion that with the view of promoting a freer social intercourse between the English officials in Malta and the nobles, it would be desirable that the Government should do anything in their power to mark their recognition of the high rank of the latter gentlemen. Lord DERBY was sure that the interest shown in the matter by his Royal Highness and their lordships' House would be appreciated by the Maltese nobles. On the motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, the Prisons Bill was referred to a Select Committee. Lord GRANVILLE, replying to Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, said he had no information that Arab prisoners had been handed over for custody to the Italians at Massowah; and he further stated that the railway near Wady Halfa was being made by paid soldiers.

Their Lordships rose at ten minutes past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

SIR S. NORTHCOLE asked whether the Prime Minister would be able, in presenting the Vote of Credit, to make any statement as to the events on the Afghan frontier, and whether the Ameer had made any representations to the Indian Government. Mr. GLADSTONE replied that on the Vote of Credit to be presented next day he proposed to limit his statement to an explanation of the vote, and not to go into questions of policy. The Government had little to add to the information already before the House as to events on the frontier of Afghanistan. The message received on Friday did not contain the answer expected from Sir P. Lumsden to the inquiries addressed to him on April 10 as to the report of General Komaroff, although it was an important telegram, confirming his former account and conflicting to some extent with the statements of General Komaroff. As to the Ameer, there had been representations from him, and he and the Viceroy had exchanged views—which he had in his mind when he said that the communications were of the most satisfactory character. Lord J. MANNERS asked how long the Government meant to withhold Sir P. Lumsden's information from the House; and Sir W. HART-DYKE made an appeal to the Government to give some approximate day when the country might expect some definite information; but Mr. GLADSTONE said it was quite impossible for the Government to come to any definite opinion until they had received the complete version of Sir P. Lumsden. Sir S. NORTHCOLE having asked for some information as to the seizure of the *Bosphore Egyptian*, Mr. GLADSTONE said it was quite true that the French Government had made certain demands on the Egyptian Government on this subject, and a correspondence was going on at the present moment. Subsequently, in answer to a question from Lord R. CHURCHILL, Mr. GLADSTONE said the Egyptian Government had not acted alone, and that the British Government had no desire to disclaim responsibility, nor did they disclaim any responsibility. In answer to Mr. A. BALFOUR, Sir E. REED said it was not his intention to attempt to bring on his motion in regard to the state of the Navy until the Seats Bill had been got out of the way. On Mr. GLADSTONE's motion that the Registration Bills have precedence, there arose a long conversation, in the course of which Mr. PARNELL and other Irish members urged that precedence be given to the Irish Bill, and Mr. GLADSTONE ultimately undertook that if the Seats Bill were finished

next night the Irish Registration Bill should be taken on Wednesday. Lord R. CHURCHILL, who made some sarcastic remarks on the apathy of Mr. Dillwyn and other former defenders of private members' rights, thought the motion premature, and moved the adjournment of the debate. Sir S. NORTHCOLE suggested that the Government should fix a day for Sir E. Reed's motion, and Mr. FORSTER, Mr. W. H. SMITH, and others joined in the appeal. Mr. GLADSTONE declined to go further than to promise to give an early consideration to the subject as soon as the Redistribution Bill and the Bills connected with it had been got out of the way; and recommended that the House should wait and see what bearing the Vote of Credit would have on the subject. In the end, after the adjournment had been negatived by 157 to 63, the motion was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and was engaged until a late hour on the Navy Estimates. The vote for victuals and clothing (£934,000) gave rise to a long and discursive conversation. Mr. RYLANDS compared the expenditure on the French and English navies, contending that we get less for our money than the French, and recommending a larger resort to building by contract. Mr. GOSW, on the other hand, contended that the dockyards were indispensable to our naval strength, and criticised the composition of the Board of Admiralty. Sir E. REED analysed the return recently made as to the cost of ships, and showed that in many cases it gave a very insufficient idea of the expenditure on each ship. Mr. A. EGERTON dilated on the shortcomings of the Navy, and Mr. CAINE replied at length to a former speech of the late First Lord, contending that the present Board had fully carried out its shipbuilding programme. Mr. W. H. SMITH considered this unsatisfactory, and Mr. NORWOOD strongly censured the folly which had allowed the Navy to sink to such a point that at the first alarm of war we had to resort to the mercantile marine. Sir JOHN HAY regarded the scare as to the condition of the Navy as quite justifiable by a comparison of our naval strength with that of others. Sir D. CURRIE, Mr. Sutherland, Sir M. LOPES, Mr. Puleston, Sir H. WOLFF, Mr. DAVIES, and Mr. A. BALFOUR spoke; and Sir T. BRANSEY, in the course of a comprehensive reply, pointed out the causes which made public dockyards more expensive than private yards, and explained how delays in completing ironclads were unavoidable. In regard to the completion of the shipbuilding programme, he mentioned fourteen ships which would be completed during the present year. On the general question, he said that the Admiralty was taking all the steps which it considered necessary, and the more the resources of the country to meet an emergency were tested, the more satisfied the Admiralty was of its power to meet all the demands which were made upon it. After some further conversation the vote was agreed to. Some other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

LORD GRANVILLE, replying to an appeal by Lord CARNARVON, postponed the second reading of the Egyptian Loan Bill till Thursday, and stated that he would without delay lay on the table a telegraphic message which had that day been received from Sir Peter Lumsden in answer to inquiries by the Government. The noble lord then informed their lordships that the vote of credit to be asked for that evening was £11,000,000, of which £4,500,000 was to be for the Sudan, and £6,500,000 for special preparations other than those in the Sudan. The Government had carefully considered our military position, not with reference to the Sudan only, but also with reference to the general condition of public affairs, and to all the possible demands upon the military resources of the Empire; and they had come to the conclusion that it was necessary to hold all those resources, including the forces in the Sudan, as far as possible available for service wherever they might be required. The vote did not include any provision for military preparations with the view of an early advance to Khartoum; but it provided for river steamboats, already contracted for, and for the completion of the Wady Halfa railway, which would have advantages altogether apart from military operations. As to ulterior steps in the Sudan the Government reserved their entire liberty of action, subject to the approval of Parliament. What he stated did not imply any change of view or intention as to the defences of Egypt and of its frontier. With the cessation of active operations any considerable extension of the Souakim railway would be suspended; but the military authorities would be consulted as to the point up to which it should be advanced with a view to the holding of Souakim. An addition to our military resources would be effected by holding the Sudan forces available for employment in India or elsewhere. The increase in our military and naval means would not affect the wish of the Government to settle any differences between this and other countries in a peaceful manner, honourable to all parties concerned. Lord CRANBROOK did not wish to press Lord Granville in respect of the negotiations with Russia, but he thought the House and the country were entitled to a distinct statement as to the policy of the Government with reference to the Sudan. The Duke of ARGYLL would regard it as a terrible step if the Government were to go back from the pledges given by the Prime Minister immediately after the fall of Khartoum as to an advance on that place. We were bound to introduce civilisation in the Sudan. He believed there was nothing in the difficulty as to Afghanistan which might not be settled by the two Governments, and to back out of our engagements in the Sudan on account of those difficulties would be a dereliction of duty which would expose us to the taunts and reproaches of other nations. Lord MILLTOWN asked whether the Government had resolved never to go to Khartoum. Lord GRANVILLE replied that they reserved entirely their freedom of action. Lord NAPIER OF MAGDALA concurred with the noble Duke in thinking that, in respect of civilisation, this country had incurred engagements in the Sudan from the discharge of which the Government ought not to shrink. Lord RIXON repudiated the idea that it was our duty to advance on Khartoum for the purpose of spreading civilisation. Lord CARNARVON complained that the

Government had no policy, or at best a mere opportunist policy. Lord MORLEY, replying to inquiries by Lords GALLOWAY and LIMERICK, stated that about 2,000 of the Army Reserves of the first class would be called out at once, and the remainder of the men of that class would be warned that a sudden call might be made on them. He further explained that it was not intended to withdraw all the English forces from Egypt. Lord HARROWBY expressed his opinion that the Opposition and the country should be ready to support the Government in what Ministers evidently regarded as great emergency, but that before asking them to do so the Government ought to state their policy.

The Infants Bill passed through Committee after amendments; and the other orders having been disposed of, their Lordships rose at twenty minutes past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. GLADSTONE informed the House that a telegram had been received from Sir P. Lumsden, in reply to the instructions addressed to him, which contained full details of the main points connected with the painful incident of the attack near Penjdeh, and seriously differed from the account given by General Komaroff. As it was complete in itself and of considerable detail, he said it would be printed and circulated among members in the course of the evening. Lord J. MANNERS asked whether the previous telegram received on Friday would be published, but Mr. GLADSTONE said that as it contained a good deal of hearsay mixed up with matters of opinion, and added nothing to the narrative which would be before the House, he saw no particular advantage in publishing it, and in answer to a further question from Sir S. NORTHGOTE he said that no other papers would be published at present. In answer to questions from Mr. M'COAN and Sir H. WOLFF, Mr. GLADSTONE said there was no truth in the rumour that negotiations were going on with Turkey for the occupation of Egypt, and the Government had received no information either from Turkey or any other Power that representations had been made for the closing of the Dardanelles in the case of hostilities.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in laying on the table a Vote of Credit for £11,000,000 for increasing the military forces, said that since February, when the requirements of the Government in connection with the military operations in Egypt were stated, the Government had found it necessary to review our military position, not only in reference to the Soudan, but also in reference to the general condition of public affairs and the probable demands on the military resources of the empire. They had come to the conclusion that all these resources as far as possible, including the forces in the Soudan, should be available for service wherever they might be required. At this there were cheers from the Opposition side, but when Mr. Gladstone went on to state that the Vote would not include any provision for further offensive operations in the Soudan, nor for military preparations for an advance on Khartoum, there were cheers from below the gangway on the Ministerial side. At the same time he said that existing undertakings not intended for hostile purposes would not be interfered with. For instance, steamboats were being built for the Nile, and a railway was being made from Wady Halfa; but speaking generally, while the Government reserved their entire discretion, subject to the control of Parliament, he repeated that the Vote would not provide for any further offensive operations—including an advance on Khartoum. Passing to details, he said, as regards the Souakim Railway, that though the cessation of the Nile operations would make any considerable extension of that railway unnecessary, it would be necessary to retain possession of Souakim for the present, and for that purpose one or two military posts would be established for health considerations, to which the railway would be extended. But while the troops in the Soudan would be available for service elsewhere, the demands made by the Indian authorities for reinforcements would be met entirely from home, and these reinforcements would be provided for in the Vote, as would also the preparation of a force at home, which, with the force in the Soudan, would amount to an entire Army Corps. After mentioning that the Vote of Credit would be considered next Monday, and that the Budget would be deferred until Thursday week, Mr. GLADSTONE explained the composition of the Vote of 11 millions. Four millions and a half are for the Soudan—viz., four millions for the Army, including £750,000 for the Souakim railway, and £400,000 for the Wady Halfa railway, and half a million is for the Navy, including the removal of troops. The remaining six millions and a half are for special preparations—viz., four millions for the Army and two and a half millions for the Navy. Finally Mr. Gladstone said that the Government were sensible of the gravity of the proposal they had to make, and while relying on the liberality and patriotism of Parliament, they would continue in all their relations with foreign Powers to endeavour by peaceable means to obtain an honourable settlement of every controversy which might arise. Sir S. NORTHGOTE remarked that the statement of the Prime Minister was so important, not only in what it said but what it implied, that he would not attempt to give any opinion upon it at the first blush. But, while doubting as to the necessity of postponing the Budget, he held a very decided view that the proposals of the Government in regard to the Soudan were most unsatisfactory, and he thought the House ought not to be called on to vote so large a sum of money without further explanations of the Ministerial policy. The Vote was ordered to be referred to Committee of Supply without any further discussion.

The House then went into Committee on the Seats Bill, and, after considerable discussion, the consideration of the divisions of the Irish counties was completed and Schedule VII. was added to the Bill. On Schedule VIII., which gives a list of the boroughs in which certain voters are to be disqualified for corrupt practices, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that, having regard to the undertaking given by the Government when Clauses 26 and 27 were considered, it would be proposed, on the report, to provide that corrupt voters at the election of 1880 should be disfranchised for a period of seven years only, while those disfranchised before that election would be restored to their electoral privileges.

Mr. WARTON moved that Knaresborough should be omitted from the list, on the ground of the triviality of the corrupt practices reported to have prevailed at the election of 1880. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the amendment, and, after some desultory conversation, in which Mr. BULWER, Mr. STEELE, and Mr. MORAN-LLOYD took part, it was negatived, on a division, by 76 to 15. This concluded the Committee, and Sir C. DILKE, in moving that the Chairman report the Bill with amendments, took occasion to thank members for the assistance they had rendered in framing the Bill, and, in reply to Sir R. CROSS, stated that the report would be put down for Monday, with a view to its being considered on Tuesday or Wednesday. Mr. BIGGAR was moving on alteration in the Standing Orders relating to the *cloture*, when the House was counted out at five minutes to eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Irish and Scotch Registration Bills were read a second time, after a short discussion. Mr. T. RICHARDSON having moved the second reading of the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (No. 2) Bill, Mr. WARTON moved its rejection, arguing that the Sunday Closing Act in force in Wales had not worked satisfactorily, but had tended to the increase of drunkenness. The debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. GOWLEY. The Public Health (Members and Officers) Bill and the Highways Bill were read a second time, and the Burial Boards (Contested Elections) Bill passed through Committee without amendment. Mr. CALLAN moved the second reading of the Barristers' Admission (Ireland) Bill, which provides that Irish Bar students shall not be required to keep terms at the English Inns of Court. Mr. GIBSON moved and Mr. WARTON seconded the adjournment of the debate, but this was negatived on a division by 122 to 30, and the Bill was read a second time. On the motion of Mr. TORRENS to go into Committee on the Waterworks Clauses Act (1847) Amendment Bill, Mr. COPE moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The amendment, on a division, was negatived by 147 to 15, and the House went into Committee, but postponed the consideration of the clauses of the measure. The second reading of the Private Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill was negatived by 77 to 42; and after some further business had been disposed of the House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord GRANVILLE, replying to Lord ELLENBOROUGH, stated that he had no information that the Russians were making by forced labour a road from Penjdeh to Herat; and, in answer to Lord SALISBURY, he said that, as far as he could understand, the explosion at the Admiralty seemed to have come from inside the building. Lord DERBY, in moving the second reading of the Federal Council of Australasia Bill, explained that the measure was one which had emanated from the colonies themselves, and that it was a permissive one, inasmuch as each of the colonies would decide for itself whether it would come into the federation. New South Wales and New Zealand at present refused to do so, and he admitted that the refusal of the former was a serious blow to the proposed organization, but he entertained a sanguine hope that the objection raised by New South Wales would not be a permanent one, and, in order to meet any doubts or fears which that colony might entertain, he had inserted in the Bill Clause 31, which would enable any colony to recede from the federation. New Zealand had from the first objected to the scheme, but a resolution in favour of it had been rejected in New South Wales by only a narrow majority. Lord CARNARVON believed that there was no objection in that House to the principle of the Bill, but the colony of Victoria objected to Clause 31, which would enable any colony to retire from the federation. He believed that the colony of New South Wales objected to entering into the federation on account of an apprehension of being outvoted in the Federal Council by four colonies which had more interests in common than they had with her. Lord NORTON and Lord BURY gave a general support to the measure. The Bill was read a second time.

The Royal Irish Constabulary Redistribution Bill was read a second time.

Lord GRANVILLE, in moving the second reading of the Egyptian Loan Bill, which measure had undergone much discussion in the House of Commons, confined himself to a very brief statement of its objects, and to arguing that, while allowing the other Powers to join in the guarantee for the loan but a small concession, those Powers had made substantial returns, and had waived their demand for an international examination of the accounts of Egypt before the raising of the proposed loan. Lord SALISBURY observed that the present critical position of our foreign affairs rendered it difficult for their Lordships' House to deal with Bills of this kind as they might otherwise be disposed to do. He regarded the advantages of the arrangement to which this Bill was to give effect as small and comparatively unimportant. As to the concession which the noble Lord took credit to the Government for having obtained in respect of the accounts, he did not regard it as a concession. He should be sorry to think that even at a future time there was to be an international control over the expenditure of the Egyptian Government. The Secretary for Foreign Affairs had not explained the motive which had induced the foreign Powers to join in guaranteeing a loan for which the guarantee of England alone would have been entirely sufficient; and there appeared to him to be danger that those Powers would hereafter claim a right of interference as annexed to their guarantee. Parliament was, however, throwing no difficulty in the way of the Government, and it was not too much to expect them to treat it with a little more frankness as to the duration of their mission in Egypt, and their policy with reference to that country and the Soudan. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH censured the Government for the course pursued by them, and asked them for an explanation of their policy; and Lord WESTWORTH opposed the Bill. Lord GRANVILLE acknowledged the temperate tone of Lord Salisbury's remarks and the good spirit in which he had dealt with the proposal of the Government. Further, he expressed his belief that on reflection the noble Lord would agree with him in thinking that the present was not a time at which the Government should make a statement of policy as to Egypt and the Soudan. As to the Bill, he reminded their Lordships that under the existing arrangements with respect to the liquidation of Egyptian debt the

loan proposed to be raised could not have been sought for without the assent of the Powers. Lord CRANBROOK thought that tribes who had been faithful should receive an assurance that they were not to be abandoned by us. Lord STRATHNAIRN condemned the Egyptian policy of the Government. Lord GALLOWAY called on the Government to say whether they regarded Dongola as being in Egypt or the Soudan. The Bill was then read a second time.

Lord NORTHBROOK, in reply to the Duke of RICHMOND and GORDON, gave a satisfactory account of the progress towards recovery of the Assistant Secretary of the Admiralty, and stated that the cause of the explosion had not been fully ascertained.

Their Lordships rose at five minutes to seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE asked whether any further papers connected with the proceedings on the Afghan frontier would be laid on the table before the debate on the Vote of Credit, and also whether the Prime Minister would state the exact point at issue between the two Governments. Mr. GLADSTONE replied that the Government did not intend to lay any further papers on the table before the Vote of Credit, and, as to the second question, he said that, considering the extreme gravity of the correspondence in which the Government were engaged, the impossibility of making a complete statement, and the risk of misapprehension which would attend a partial statement, they had decided not to make any further statement as to the nature and particulars of the correspondence. Sir S. NORTHGOTE reminded the Prime Minister that in 1878 the Opposition of that day pressed for and obtained a delay in the consideration of the Vote of Credit, and Lord R. CHURCHILL and others also made a similar appeal; but Mr. GLADSTONE said that, though the House might, of course, postpone the vote, the Government did not think that the public interest would be served thereby; and they considered that the House had already before it adequate information to explain the reason for which the vote was asked. Lord J. MANNERS asked whether any despatch could be produced throwing light on the circumstances under which Sir P. Lumsden left Gulan; but Mr. GLADSTONE desired that notice might be given. Sir W. BARTELOT asked whether the vote for the Soudan could not be taken separately from the vote for "special preparations," to which Mr. GLADSTONE replied that though this could be done by the House the vote would be submitted in the form of a single vote. Mr. A. O'CONNOR asked the Speaker whether it would be in order to move that the vote might be divided; but the SPEAKER declined to give any decision until he had seen the notice of motion. In answer to a question from Sir R. CROSS, Sir W. V. HARCOURT confirmed the accounts of an explosion at the Admiralty; but beyond saying that it was evident that the explosive matter had been placed in the room, and that it was a small quantity, it was too early, he said, to form a definite opinion on the subject. Mr. Swainson, he added, was going on favourably, and there was no truth in the rumour of a second explosion.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and was occupied until a late hour on the Civil Service Estimates, Class 1 (Public Buildings). On the first two votes, for disturnpiked roads in England and Scotland, a discussion arose, and was continued for some hours by the Irish members, who strenuously urged that a similar grant should be made to Ireland. Mr. HIBBERT pointed out that several taxes were paid in England and Scotland which were not imposed in Ireland, and, while not admitting the existence of any just ground of complaint, promised that the subject should be considered by the Government. On a division, the English vote was carried by 144 to 23, and the Scotch vote by 78 to 26. Votes for the Royal University Buildings in Ireland, for Lighthouses abroad, and for Diplomatic and Consular Buildings were also agreed to.

The House went into Committee on the Registration of Voters (Scotland) Bill, but progress with the clauses was postponed until next week. A similar course was pursued with regard to the Registration of Voters (Ireland) Bill; and after some further business had been disposed of, the House adjourned at ten minutes to one o'clock.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Lord Salisbury, in acknowledging the receipt of an address from the Neath Conservative Association, Glamorganshire, writes:—"Our prospects darken every day, and our destinies are at the mercy of the irresolute purposes of a divided Cabinet, whose existence is only prolonged by the partisan fidelity of a majority, of which one-half disapproves their policy, and the other half loudly censures their conduct of affairs."

Acknowledging an address, signed by over 7,000 Conservatives of Wales and Monmouthshire expressing confidence in his Lordship, the Marquis of Salisbury writes:—"If the electors of this country could express their opinions free from the pledges and conditions of party connection, I have no doubt that a very large majority would concur with you in the judgment you pass on the present Administration. Their helpless instability of purpose condemns all their enterprises to a disastrous end, and the disgrace which they repeatedly caused by neglecting till it was too late to rescue gallant officers and garrisons whom their policy had exposed to mortal peril has compromised the good name of England. She speaks with little authority, and her protests will carry little weight so long as the men who represent her are discredited by reiterated failure."

Lord Randolph Churchill has been elected President of the London and Westminster Working Men's Constitutional Association.

Viscount Cranbrook has consented to preside at a Conservative demonstration to be held at Doncaster on May 15. Mr. H. C. Raikes, M.P., Mr. J. C. Lawrence, M.P., and the Hon. E. Gathorne Hardy will also be among the speakers.

The Constitutional Club will entertain the Council of the National Union of Conservative Associations at a dinner, to be held at the temporary club-house, 14, Regent-street, on Friday, the 1st of May. Among the speakers will be the Duke of Norfolk, Viscount

Holmesdale, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P., Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., and Dr. A. K. Rolit.

The inaugural banquet of the newly formed Ealing Conservative Club will take place at the Lyric Hall, Ealing, on Tuesday, the 5th of May. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., is expected to attend, and the gathering will, no doubt, be a large and influential one.

A Conservative demonstration will be held on Wednesday, May 6, at the Theatre Royal, Windsor. The meeting will be addressed by Sir Robert Peel, M.P., Mr. A. Staveley Hill, M.P., Mr. R. Richardson-Gardner, M.P., and Sir George Russell, the Conservative candidate for East Berkshire.

Speaking on Saturday at a Conservative meeting at Bromley, Lord G. HAMILTON said that the day was rendered memorable in the minds of Conservatives, it being the anniversary of their great leader's death. No one could have been in the metropolis that day without being struck by the enormous and increasing number of individuals wearing that badge which was specially to commemorate their late distinguished leader. What was the cause of the enormous increase in the number of those who wore that decoration? Why, it was simply this, that the people of this country were a just people, and when they were in the presence of any great danger they were then apt to look back and see if they could in any way trace what was the cause and the origin of that danger with which they found themselves face to face. A war between England and Russia would be a terrible catastrophe. Now, the reason why the Earl of Beaconsfield succeeded was that when he believed it necessary to undertake a duty he would perform that duty perfectly, regardless of the unpopularity it would entail. The distinction between him and his great rival was this, that Mr. Gladstone's one object was to retain popularity no matter what the result might be. Everybody who had dealings with the Earl of Beaconsfield knew that he was a resolute and determined man, and even the savage and native tribes in Asia and elsewhere knew if they aided and assisted the Government of which was the head all the resources of that Government would be used to protect them. Now all that was changed, and the present Government had by their inaction and by their fatal vacillation created this impression, which was a fatal impression among semi-civilised or savage tribes, that it was better now to be the enemy than the friend of the English Government. They could not purchase peace by perpetual concession.

At a banquet in connection with the Brighton branch of the Primrose League on Monday night, Mr. MARRIOTT, M.P., replying to the toast of "The Conservative Cause," said the present time was one of the gravest in the history of the country, and there could not be but one opinion, and that was that the interests of the kingdom were in danger under the present Ministry. Radicalism was befouling the nation, placing power in the hands of a few who used it to their advantage, and interfered with the liberty of the subject. With regard to foreign and colonial matters, there never was a period in our time when the Empire was in such a state of danger as at present, and he declared the time was not far distant when we should be at war with Russia and France. We were now always bragging and then withdrawing, first boasting and then begging pardon. If the people of this country really knew the facts they would turn Ministers out bag and baggage, and, if the elections took place at the present time, he believed the Liberals would be beaten by one of the largest majorities.

Mr. ASHEMAD-BARTLETT, M.P., speaking at a Primrose demonstration at Plymouth on Tuesday night, said the whole fault of the Afghan complications was due to the ineptitude with which the Gladstone Government in 1873 met the demands of Sher Ali for troops. The position now was a most difficult one, and he considered it now the duty of the Government (the Ameer being willing) to occupy Herat without further delay.

Addressing a meeting of Conservatives at Colchester on Wednesday night, Mr. STANHOPE, M.P., referred to the great war vote of credit being proposed by the Man of Midlothian, who, professing economy, had always practised extravagance, and who, preaching peace, had always been waging war. He pointed out how our so-called Government of peace had alienated France, Germany, and Austria, if not also Turkey, from England, and said that all this was owing to the Government never having set before it a fixed and definite purpose, and with a resolute determination to carry it out. He hoped war would be avoided, but if the advance of Russia upon India could be checked in no other way, then we must be prepared to make the terrible sacrifices which such a course would involve.

Speaking at a meeting at Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday night, Sir RICHARD CROSS, M.P., alluded to the enormous expenditure of the present Administration. If all the expenditure was raised by taxation the Government would achieve a distinction not attained by any previous Ministry—viz., that of levying in one year £100,000,000 upon the English taxpayers. He maintained that if the policy of Lord Beaconsfield's Administration had been followed a scientific frontier might have been defined, and the Quetta Railway would have put England in a position to place an army at Herat very quickly. He held, however, that the present difficulty would not have arisen if Lord Beaconsfield's firm policy in dealing with Russia had been followed. As to Egypt and the Soudan, he thought the proceedings of the Ministry must puzzle the Egyptians and Arabs alike. He demanded a clear and definite policy, and an assurance that Egypt would be administered for the benefit of the people and the honour of England. The great difference between the last and the present Administration was that Lord Beaconsfield's Cabinet were aware of the responsibility of a great empire, and were not afraid of it, while the present Cabinet had never dared to face that responsibility, and did not understand what a great empire meant.

Lord RIRON, speaking on Tuesday night at the house dinner of the City Liberal Club, said he would not abandon the hope that the difficulties which had arisen between this country and the Government of Russia might be brought to a peaceful solution. In view of the evils which a war between England and Russia would cause he desired with all his heart that a peaceful solution of the difficulties might be found, provided only that it were a solution which was

contemnt with the honour of the country and the engagements of the Crown. He had known—he had always felt—that the time was not far distant when a close approximation of the British frontiers with the frontiers of one of the great military nations of the world would be accomplished; and he had felt it to be his duty when at the head of the Government of India to look forward to that period and to endeavour to strengthen the feelings of attachment between her Majesty's subjects in India and our beloved Sovereign. They had seen what had happened in that country within the last few weeks and the manifestations of loyalty which had burst forth, as it were, from the hearts of Princes and people alike. If this cloud should pass away, and the danger of war should be removed from us, our duties to these people would remain the same, and our obligations ought not to be forgotten by those who were entrusted with our administration in India. No doubt, when quiet times returned, the question of the defences of that country and of our military organisation there would be likely to occupy largely the attention of the Government and the country. He could assure them that our military organisation needed improving, and that a great deal might be done in that matter without the expenditure of an extra rupee, and even with no inconsiderable economies.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE was the principal speaker on Wednesday night at the annual dinner of the London and Westminster Working Men's Constitutional Association. The right hon. gentleman referred to the memory of that great man Lord Beaconsfield. Proceeding, he said they had not lost the lessons the deceased statesman had impressed on them, and they showed this best by endeavouring to fulfil what they knew was his desire, that they should by organisation and exertion endeavour to crown the work in which he had taken so much interest, and of which he had laid some of the principal corner-stones. Such associations as these gave testimony to the vitality of their principles, and it was to be remembered that they had not only great battles to fight at general elections, but also to carry on the great work of organisation. It was said of the great Duke of Wellington that when congratulated once on his great military successes, he replied, "I do believe I have the skill to feed an army." What was meant by this was that he saw that the real point lay not so much in the manoeuvring on the battlefield but in the ability to bring the forces to the field in proper time and in a proper condition to perform their duty. This was what was required of these associations. They were not only to fight well at a general election, but in the meantime to keep the constituencies in good heart and organisation, so that they might be ready for any encounter whenever called upon. He thought the value of the association he was addressing was enhanced by its being a Constitutional association of working men. This was a great point with Lord Beaconsfield, who always endeavoured to impress on his friends the truth that it they wished to preserve the Constitution of the country they must do it by interesting the working classes in what they proposed. Whatever anxiety might be felt at times when great changes were made in the shape of large additions to the constituencies, experience had shown that the danger was one against which they had a remedy in their own hands, viz., by zealously and faithfully discharging their duty towards those who were admitted to the franchise, and endeavouring to educate them in the political duties they would have to perform. By discipline and organisation they would be enabled to effect much, but he warned them against the caucus system which prevailed in Birmingham and certain other Liberal constituencies. One great point to bear in mind was always to be ready at a time of emergency, especially when a general election was pending, and he hoped that in avoiding the errors of the caucus and in diligent work these associations would set an example to the country that would prove of the utmost value. They might depend upon it if they did not take their own proper part in educating those with whom they had to act, they would get information somewhere and of some quality which they feared might be very deleterious. They were told when the present Parliament was elected that it was the best Parliament that had ever been elected, and that there had never been the like of the Premier. He would only say that if this was a specimen of the best possible Parliament, and if Mr. Gladstone was a specimen of the best possible Premier, he was content to hope that the next Parliament might not be quite so good.

The Federal Council of Australasia Bill, issued on Saturday under the auspices of Lord Derby as representing the Colonial Office, is the first practical step towards giving effect to the federation of the Australian colonies. It will be remembered that last year the delegates of these colonies met and resolved upon a certain course of action calculated to advance their mutual interests. At the present time there is as little real connection between such important colonies as Victoria and New South Wales, or Queensland and Western Australia, as there is between Jersey and the Isle of Man. Each colony makes its own laws without the slightest reference to the policy of the adjoining colony, and to such an extent has this system of isolation been carried in the past that even different gauges have been adopted for the railway systems, which leads to great expense in the transfer of goods traffic from one line to another. In the same way there has been no provision for the general defence of the Australian colonies, each district having pursued its separate course on this point. Lord Derby's Bill is calculated to remove these anomalies by instituting an elected Federal Council at which each colony—as well as New Zealand and Fiji—will be represented by two members, except in the case of Crown colonies, which will return one member. This body, which will hold its first meeting at Hobart, Tasmania, will initiate all legislation which affects the Imperial and general interests of the colonies, such as their relations with the islands of the Pacific, the prevention of the influx of criminals, the territorial limits of fisheries, the service of civil process out of the jurisdiction of the colony in which it is issued, the enforcement of judgments in the same way, the extradition of criminals, and above all the general defence of the colonies. This measure must not be confounded with the recent movement in this country for the federation of the Empire at large, which is a totally different scheme, and which at present seems as

visionary as the federation of the Australian colonies—as between themselves—is practicable and desirable.

LORD SALISBURY AT WREXHAM.

LORD SALISBURY opened a Conservative Club at Wrexham on Tuesday, and in the evening addressed a large meeting in a marquee. He said when Lord Beaconsfield left office we were friends with all the world; now we were at odds with all the world. Contrasting Mr. Gladstone's definition at Edinburgh in 1879 of a true foreign policy with the way in which foreign affairs had been of late administered, Lord Salisbury observed that Mr. Gladstone said that the merit of foreign affairs in this country was that they should be as little heard of as possible. It was for them, now that five years have elapsed, to say whether the results were so much better than those he denounced that they considered it desirable to adopt them. Compare the state of things when Lord Beaconsfield left office with the present:—

"Russia, for whom we have sacrificed so much; Russia, the great patron of the races and Churches—Mr. Gladstone was always so keen to advance—Russia has inflicted upon us what he himself has called an unprovoked aggression, and is now standing menacing our most precious dependency in the East. Germany and Austria have taken the opportunity of declaring, so we are informed by the public journals, that war, if it takes place, would be what they call localised; that is to say, that by pressure upon the Sultan of Turkey to induce him to close the Dardanelles they will prevent us from striking at Russia at the only part where she is vulnerable. And France takes this opportunity of raising demands in Egypt which, if the accounts we see of them are at all justified, cannot fail to bring about a condition of strained relations between this country and herself which all who remember the old friendship of France and England will deeply regret. We are at odds with all the world, and the European Concert, of which we used to hear so much, only exists in this—that the nations of Europe are at one in forcing upon us a treaty with respect to Egypt to which we entirely objected."

The advocates of the Government were in the habit of saying that all this was a result of the policy of the Tories five years ago. But what was the use of having an excellent Liberal Government if, after five years, they were just as powerless to mend the errors of those dreadful Tories as they were at the beginning.

"But when this argument is addressed to you, I would have you observe one thing in respect to Egypt. They say they adhered to our policy, which is not true. They adhered, they say, to our policy with these results. I say, on the contrary, they blundered and bungled our policy in such a fashion that the condition of the country, which we left fair and smiling, is turned into war and desolation. But observe this. In Egypt, they say, they followed our policy; but they cannot pretend they followed our policy in the Transvaal or in Afghanistan; and yet in all three cases the result has been the same. Whether they followed us or whether they contradicted us, a uniform failure has attended them."

Lord Salisbury then went on to speak of Mr. Gladstone's principles of foreign policy, as laid down in his Midlothian campaign:—

"The first principle was economy. This is his first principle of the conduct of foreign affairs. I do not know whether you know it, but I have a telegram in my hands saying he has announced a vote of credit of eleven millions, in order to maintain this foreign policy which, for five years, he has conducted on principles of economy. The next object of his foreign policy was to assure to the nations the blessings of peace. The Arabs, for instance, the Boers, the Afghans, and, possibly it may be, the Russians, will have a commentary of their own on the mode in which he ensures to the nations the blessings of peace. The third condition of foreign policy was that we should, above all things, maintain the concert of Europe. We have maintained the concert of Europe, and we have maintained it so that the concert of Europe is directed against ourselves. The fourth was that we should enter into no entangling treaties or engagements, which furnishes a very good commentary for that Convention with Egypt which was signed last month, and a Convention which will have the effect of bringing in two years an international control of the affairs of Egypt, and plunging us into all the confusion which the international control must bring about. Last of all, he said a foreign policy must, of all things, breathe an atmosphere of freedom. This he has illustrated by slaughtering six or seven thousand Arabs, who, by his own account, were a people rightly struggling to be free."

After some sarcastic remarks on Mr. Gladstone's economical and peace principles as illustrated by the vote of credit and the bombardment of Alexandria, Lord Salisbury went on to deal with Russian designs in the East. He said that he supposed nobody doubts that, at all events, the intention of the military party in Russia (and they are the masters) is to establish such a position with respect to India that they may be able to force us to yield Constantinople into their hands. We could not again rely too much, if at all, upon the promises which, from time to time, the Foreign Office of Russia may give.

"The policy which was pursued by Lord Beaconsfield and the late Government on this Afghan question differed very materially from that which has been pursued by Her Majesty's Government. Lord Beaconsfield was much attacked for using the term 'scientific frontier'; but I think now we shall see the wisdom of the policy he recommended. The view of his Government was that we should trust, in defending India against the possible advance of Russia, in the first instance, to the frontier which we should occupy and defend, and to our own force; in the second instance, to our good friends the Afghans, who so long as we are resolute and strong will be our very faithful allies; and in the third instance, only to any promises which Russia may give. The present Government has exactly reversed that order. They trust in the main to the promises of Russia, which they are trying to obtain. They trust, in the second instance, to the alliance and friendship of Afghanistan, which they have made great sacrifices to secure. They trust

not at all, or very little, to their own precautions and foresight. We were constructing the railway to Candahar. If the work we had begun had been continued there would have been at this moment a railway to Candahar, and it would be a matter of perfect ease to throw into the fortress sufficient troops, to arm it with sufficient works, absolutely to prevent any advance of Russia towards India, and to make Herat practically safe. Russia is at the gates of Herat, and we have not our railway beyond the Bolan Pass. There is no doubt that this course which the English Government has taken leaves the country in a position of very great difficulty at the present time. My idea of the mode of dealing with Russia is, not to exact from her promises which she will not keep, but to say to her, 'This or that is the point beyond which you shall not go, and if you do go beyond it we will spare neither men nor money till we drive you back. The difficulty of our present position is not only the inaccessibility of the precise place where General Komaroff is, but is also due to our singular skill in uniting the nations of the world against us. The Dardanelles will be closed against us, and we should be unable to strike at Russia at any point where she will feel the blow. Therefore I fear the probability is that General Komaroff will score a very large advantage. I am sure that every man in this room earnestly wishes for peace; but peace may be bought too dear, and one cannot but feel apprehension if that act of 'unprovoked aggression,' as the Prime Minister calls it, which General Komaroff has perpetrated at Penjdeh is allowed to remain unrepelled, unavenged, and no effort is made to wipe out the stain which has fallen upon the arms of our allies, and in some degree upon us, and it becomes evident to Asia, and especially to India, that, whatever excuses are made (and excuses no doubt will be forthcoming by the cartload), General Komaroff has turned out from Penjdeh the Afghans, who were under the countenance and under the advice of two British officers, and that England has been powerless to prevent him."

The foreign policy, which was to be so splendid a substitute for that of Lord Beaconsfield, had caused the name of England and the word of England to be despised. Throughout all the proceedings of the Government the characteristic mark had been, improvidence in seeking positions of difficulty and danger, and perfect recklessness in running away from them the moment that the danger declared itself. The incompetence of the Government was owing to the fact that it represented not a party in the true sense of the word, but a confederation of parties, or groups; and that at each step it had to consider not simply what any individual ruler would determine upon as most advantageous for his country, but whether this wing or that wing of the Government could be kept to its allegiance by the policy put forward. The result of this Lord Salisbury illustrated by the Government's dealings with the Sudan. With regard to the charge that the Conservatives had no policy, Lord Salisbury contended, upon the authority of Lord Beaconsfield, whom he quoted, that with respect to details they ought not to have a policy, for they could not compete with the Government in information or knowledge of facts, military or diplomatic; and without that knowledge it would be impossible for them to lay out either a political or military campaign. As regarded general principles of policy, Lord Salisbury said:—

"In the first place, in my judgment, the need of the moment is not the provision of principles of policy, but the provision of competent men to administer the policy. The first vital condition of improvement in our public affairs is the dismissal of the incompetent rulers who govern them. If I go further with the policy of foreign affairs with which I am dealing now, I should not repeat the celebrated six conditions which Mr. Gladstone gave us five years ago. It is told that in all these guides to foreign policy which he laid down he nowhere tells you that any solicitude or care for the splendid empire of England should have a place. To my mind it is the first and dominant condition, and all the others come after it. I would defend the empire; I would cherish the empire as the most precious inheritance which belongs to the privilege of being a Briton, as the most splendid legacy which our forefathers have handed down to us. I would not apologise for it or treat it as something to be put out of sight, or as an unfortunate burden which has come down to us to be made as light as possible. On the contrary, I look upon it as the highest blessing this country and the world can enjoy, in its highest sense, because it enables us to carry the principles of British civilisation to the furthest corners of the world, to the most deserted and degraded races. In a less exalted sense I would cherish it, for it is the only security which is left to keep open the pathways of trade, and find for ourselves some markets at least which the protective policy and hostility of foreign nations have not closed to us. But do not imagine, as our enemies say, that this is a contentious and quarrelsome doctrine. I do not desire any other test for the conduct of a country except that conduct which you would admire in any private man. I would not have it quarrelsome or disputatious, and regardless of the rights of others; such a character is odious, whether in nations or men; but neither, on the other hand, would I have it feeble or vacillating in asserting those rights of which it is the trustee. I do not believe that such a spirit is dangerous to peace or that it leads to war. You have had some proof in the last five years of what an opposite policy will lead to. All the electoral campaign of 1880 was carried on, to an extent to which no other campaign was ever before carried on, by a constant invocation of Christian maxims and reference to Christian obligations. Now you are seeing what all this kind of language leads to. You have seen that it leads to an amount of bloodshed and an amount of disgrace to which this Empire has hitherto been unused. Depend upon it, the characteristics which are the guardians of the peace are, above all things, clearness of purpose, consistency of action, and firmness in adhering to a course deliberately taken up. By such action you will obtain the respect of the world, and it is upon your having the respect of the world that the prospects of peace depend. There is no other means of keeping up respect for your rights except the making it to be understood that you are determined to fight for them, and to fight for them to the utmost if the occasion should arise."

Lord Salisbury, replying at Welshpool on Wednesday to an address presented to him by the Montgomery Conservative Association, said he could not but feel the gravity of the crisis under which he addressed them. It was a period in which the destinies of nations hung in the balance, and little on either side might determine the fearful issue of peace or war. In reference to the measures to be taken by the Government in defence of the interests and honour of the Crown, there would be no division among Englishmen. But the occasion did not forbid him from pointing out the character of the Government that ruled over us. The announcement which had been made in respect to Egypt filled him with sorrow.

"I believe that, with moderate foresight and skill, Egypt might have been still in the same smiling and prosperous condition in which she was left by the Ministry of Lord Beaconsfield, and that our alliances and friendship in respect to Egypt might still be unbroken and undiminished. But all this has passed by. That state of things has been shattered, so that it can never return. The alliances have been broken. Egypt has become the subject of international convention. We have spent vast sums; we have wasted numbers of valuable lives of our kindred, numbers that we can ill spare; we have shed the blood like water of the natives whom we ourselves declare to be 'a nation struggling to be free.' All these things we have done; we have put great burdens on the finances of this country, which we shall feel for some time to come; and now—I can hardly believe it is true—all this is to be abandoned, all this is to be thrown aside, and we are told that as a consideration for the eleven millions of money which are asked for—the proportion of it that is asked for Egypt—there is to be absolutely no result except the privilege of withdrawing the troops we have taken there."

Lord Salisbury went on to speak of the commercial depression at home, and charged the Government with indifference to it. Upon the question of taxation he said he was not in favour of the reimposition of the duty on corn; but he pointed out the disadvantages of throwing so heavy a burden of taxation upon houses and land, while those who drew fortunes from foreign securities, Consols, banks, and other forms of personal security, escaped so much more easily. Having referred to the extension of the franchise, Lord Salisbury proceeded to speak of Conservative principles. They struggled in the first place for the maintenance of religion. Next to that they sought to sustain the honour and the power of the Empire, which was in danger because Liberal doctrine had prevailed. There was no conclusion from recent political events more evident than that, if it had not been for fear of what the members of the peace party would say to them, the Government would have taken many a step at an earlier date, and would have shown the vigour which they are at last compelled to show at a period when it would have been effective for the defence of the empire. Many a precious life and many a mass of treasure would have been saved to the people but for the malignant influence which the peace party has exercised upon them. Lord Beaconsfield stated with truth that no section of the nation had ever caused more war or more bloodshed than the Peace-at-any-price party in this country. Another cause which Conservatives had to serve was the cause of liberty. No one could have watched recent legislation without seeing the apparent tendency of the Liberal party, the apparent desire of the most fanatical amongst them, to impose their opinions, not by persuasion but by force, and in every relation of life to fetter men and to withdraw from them the freedom of action and of contract which they had hitherto enjoyed. It was one of the first duties of the Conservative party to uphold the liberty that had been handed down to us. Last of all, it was their duty to uphold confidence between man and man and between classes as a condition on which alone the modern world which has faded away and decayed among us could revive.

PRIMROSE DAY.

Primroses were more generally worn in London and throughout the country on Saturday and on Sunday, as a tribute to the memory of Lord Beaconsfield, than on any previous anniversary. By command of the Queen a wreath of primroses was sent to Hughenden and placed on the tomb of Lord Beaconsfield by Mrs. Blagden, wife of the vicar, on behalf of the Queen. There was a large number of visitors to the parish church and the grave of Lord Beaconsfield. The vicar had received crosses and wreaths from numerous admirers of the deceased statesman, and they were placed on the grave, on which is now growing a beautiful bed of Princess Royal hyacinths. One magnificent wreath, composed of pink and yellow roses, with a crown in stephanotis, lilies of the valley, and forget-me-nots, received from Hong-Kong, was placed in the Earl's stall in the church, and other portions of the edifice were decorated with primroses, moss, ferns, and violets. Many wreaths of primroses were sent by Conservative associations from various parts of the country.

A Primrose League dinner was given in memory of Lord Beaconsfield on Saturday evening at St. James's Hall, Lord John Manners presiding. About 700 knights of the League were present, as well as many dames, all wearing the decoration of the day.

After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been honoured, Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL proposed the toast of the evening, "The Primrose League," and referring to the day remarked that the desire to honour Lord Beaconsfield by wearing his favourite flower had been especially shown among the people. His Lordship said:—"There was, as you are no doubt aware, much of poetry and romance in the best sense of the word attaching to Lord Beaconsfield's career. It was essentially a career of genius and imagination, inspired by a profound study of the past. It was a career of resistless triumph over obstacles to ordinary mortals insuperable, as was the triumph of a mediæval knight. It was determined, and I think wisely determined, that those characteristics should be as far as possible set forth in the title of the members and in the ordinances and procedure of the League. I do not myself think that that determination would have been in any way displeasing to the illustrious hero whose career we are commemorating this evening, because

he has laid down in those celebrated *Runnymede Letters*, when describing all the qualities which go to make up a great nation, that the spirit of chivalry is indispensable. Well, when this association was first founded and its character made public, there were those who laughed, not only among our opponents, but also among our friends. But, gentlemen, those laugh best who laugh last, and for my part I have every hope that when the result of the coming election is made known the knights of the Primrose League will be laughing cheerily and their hearts will be beating proudly in the consciousness of good work done. I do not think there was ever a time in our history when such an organisation was more needed. The great defeat of our party in 1880 was on the whole, I firmly believe, a necessary experience for the nation, and I do not regret it. It not only purged the Tory party of much that was rotten and much that was hopelessly antiquated, but it has enabled the common sense of England to detect in a practical manner and by experience, which, though bitter, will not be forgotten, the worthlessness of Liberal promises and the danger of the Liberal policy. In the presence of the noble chairman, who is rightly regarded as one of the leaders of the Tory party, I do not hesitate to assert that the Tory party will make to the country no such promises as those which deluded the Midlothian electors and which are the indelible disgrace of the Midlothian campaign. His Lordship then dwelt at some length on the present Russo-Afghan question. "I think you will agree with me that it is our duty, not only as Englishmen, but especially as members of this society, at any moment of national emergency, to ask ourselves what would have been the attitude of Lord Beaconsfield, and what advice he would have given us if he had seen this day. I believe that he would have told you (I judge only from my knowledge of his own political career)—I believe he would have told you that it was your duty to sustain and stimulate the patriotism and the courage of the people—(cheers)—and to postpone to a more convenient season the energetic, or perhaps, I should rather say, the acrimonious prosecution of party controversy. I would not willingly say one word, and I do not believe there is anybody in this hall who would willingly say one word, which, however indirectly, could injure the chances of the preservation of peace or precipitate the chances of war; but there is a word which I think must be said, for there are certain organs in this country and groups of politicians, well-meaning, I have no doubt, but very eccentric, who are putting forward certain views and considerations which, if not strenuously answered and refuted, might dangerously mislead the public. My Lords and gentlemen, your task of governing India, which you have been carrying on now for more than a hundred years, is a task of great difficulty and danger, the difficulties and dangers of which do not diminish as time goes on. Your rule in India is, as it were, a sheet of oil spread out over the surface of, and keeping calm and quiet and unruffled by storms, an immense and profound ocean of humanity; and it is your task, your most difficult business to give peace, individual security, and general prosperity to the 250 millions of people who are affected by those powerful forces, to bind them and to weld them by the influence of your knowledge, your law, and your higher civilisation in process of time into one great united people, and to offer to all the nations of the West the advantages of tranquillity and progress in the East. That is your task for India. That is your *raison d'être* in India. That is your title to India. And I say that a task so difficult, so enormous, and yet so beneficent ought to command the sympathy and friendly assent of every European Power. (Cheers.) For undoubtedly it is in their interest as well as in ours that the task should be successfully accomplished. Well, to a great extent that sympathy and friendly assent have been secured; but there is one European Power—the Russian Empire—which for many years has been making the progress of stable government in India not only difficult, but almost impossible. (Hear, hear.) That is one European Power, sometimes open, always gradual, always sure advance of the countless hosts of Russia upon the North-West Frontier of India, now resembling the gliding of a serpent, and at another time resembling the bounding of a tiger, hopelessly prevents and prohibits your government in India from acquiring any real stability or striking its roots deep among the native peoples. The eyes of the natives are continually directed toward the North-West. The political discussions of the natives—and they have many political discussions nowadays—always turn upon the Russian advance. Every political project or view which they are inclined to take up and put forward is always coloured and qualified by the Russian advance. They know that from that quarter has come every conquest of India but one; they see in that quarter mighty armies moving, and I tell you, gentlemen, that unless that most insidious and malignant movement of Russian armies is permanently arrested—(prolonged cheering)—it is foolish and futile to hope for any real political or social progress in India under British rule. It is idle and hopeless to be putting forward schemes for securing the loyal and hearty co-operation of the natives in your Indian policy—schemes for local self-government, schemes for equalising and lightening the financial burdens which weigh heavily on the people, so that you may convince them of the benefit of your rule, schemes for the development of the great resources of India by public works—all these schemes are doomed to be blighted and disappointed and rendered incapable of fruition as long as these most mischievous military movements are agitating the native mind. That is the question between England and Russia. We have been very patient, we have been apparently unobtrusive, very long-suffering, and very phlegmatic; but the question has now come before us in a very acute form, and its solution cannot be avoided or escaped. It is not, in my mind, a question of Penjdeh, or Herat, or any other quarter of the world, on which certain people are fixing now a ludicrously microscopic amount of attention. That is not the question. The question is this—Will you permit or will you once for all put a stop to and finally suppress the constant and carefully prepared series of irritations, monstrosities, and alarms—(cheers)—which as long as it continues cripples and paralyses all your efforts to direct definitely the destinies of Hindostan? (Cheers.) My Lords and gentlemen, you hear a great deal and we read a great deal now about the loyalty of the people and the Princes of India. Yes, I believe they are loyal to you now; indeed, if they were not so we should probably not be there; but we must not imagine that the loyalty

of an Indian Prince or people is of the same quality as our own loyalty towards the British Crown. Their loyalty is strictly conditional, and rightly so; you have pledged yourselves to protect them, not only from internal conflict, but from foreign aggression, and you have deprived them of all means of effectually defending themselves. So long as your ability and desire faithfully to fulfil your pledges is obvious and indubitable so long will the loyalty of India last; but the moment that the marvellously acute perception of the Oriental mind even so much as suspects that you are doubtful of your power and your rights, and that you hesitate to assert that power and those rights, no matter at what risk and cost, that loyalty, gentlemen, becomes a thing of the past, never to be revived. (Cheers.) Therefore, my Lords and gentlemen, this is the situation. If the result of the present dispute with Russia should demonstrate any failure on our part to determine once for all the hostile designs of that empire, I do not say that you will lose India tomorrow; but of this I am as certain as that I am standing here—that your rule in India will have received a mortal blow; that all hopes of political and social progress there will have for ever vanished; that the deadly decrepitude which fell upon the old Indian and Mogul empires will fall upon you and your empire; and that the annihilation of your power will be but a question of time. I hope, my Lords and gentlemen, that I have not wearied you on a subject of immeasurable public urgency. I will not further detain you, but will conclude first of all by thanking you for your kind indulgence, and then by asking you to bear in mind the general services which you are pledged, each of you, individually and collectively, to render to the Tory party, and the special services which I believe you have in your power at this moment to render to your country, and I call upon you to drink with all the enthusiasm which it deserves the toast of 'The Primrose League.'

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with loud cheers, said, in proposing "The memory of the Earl of Beaconsfield, K.G.," that to recall a great and national loss, especially when that loss was also a private and personal sorrow, was so painful that he confessed that when first asked to undertake that toast he was reluctant to do so; but, reflecting that he would probably be the oldest of Lord Beaconsfield's political supporters and private friends, he felt that the very obligation of that day placed upon him the duty which he felt so painful, and which he could not hope to discharge with satisfaction to them or to himself. The simple act of memory was all that was required to impress on the public conscience the difference in the condition of Imperial affairs in 1880, when misrepresentation and calumny and delusive promises of every sort succeeded in driving Lord Beaconsfield from power, and the year 1885, in which his successful rival had succeeded in bringing the condition and the fortunes of this unhappy Empire into jeopardy and peril at home and abroad. (Cheers.) The torrents of blood that had been shed, were being shed, and would continue to be shed in Africa; that cloud of war and confusion, to which his noble friend (Lord Randolph Churchill) had so eloquently alluded, which was now hanging over Afghanistan, of which the present Government had undertaken the military defence; the ruin, financial, social, and material, of Ireland; the decay of every important national industry; the diminution in the wages of the people, accompanied by a great increase of taxation—all these results and many more told the people of this country the difference between a statesman of consummate courage, never-failing presence, and an intimate knowledge of mankind, and a sophisticated rhetorician always inclined to place more importance on phrases than on facts, and to subordinate the external defence and safeguarding of this great Empire to domestic schemes of legislative subversion. (Cheers.) That was no occasion to enlarge upon the charm of Lord Beaconsfield's social and private life; but he thought that in proposing that toast he would omit a duty if he made no allusion to the literary labours of Lord Beaconsfield. In three of the most popular and widely read of his works of fiction, Lord Beaconsfield endeavoured to set forth his views, as to the policy which should be the policy of the remodelled Tory party, and even in that hall and after dinner he thought he could not do better in addressing the members of the Primrose League than advise those who had not yet done so to study not only those works, but that preface to Lord Beaconsfield's novels in which he himself described the objects which he had in writing that trilogy of *Coningsby*, of *Sybil*, and of *Tancred*. Those cruel spring winds of 1881 silenced the eloquent voice and chilled the guiding hand of Lord Beaconsfield, and now the same fatal agency had recently deprived them of that consummate lawyer, that wise adviser, and that eloquent statesman who possessed Lord Beaconsfield's entire confidence and shared his inmost counsels. If the Tory party were only a collection of busy politicians intent on driving their successful rivals from office, two such irreparable losses might, indeed, induce them to despair of future success; but such were not the lessons which they had derived from the trials and struggles, the death and the triumph of their illustrious leader; and he was confident that, as year by year that fatal day came round, those who were permitted to attend those celebrations would say of Lord Beaconsfield, as he said of Lord George Bentinck,—"He has left us the legacy of heroes, the memory of a great name, and the inspiration of a great example." (Loud cheers.)

The toast was drunk in silence. Several other toasts followed.

Several meetings were held in the provinces on Saturday. Lord George Hamilton, speaking at Bromley, said no one could have been in the metropolis that day without being struck by the enormous and increasing number of persons wearing that badge which was especially to commemorate their late distinguished leader. What was the cause? Why, it was simply this—that the people in this country were a just people, and when they were in the presence of any great danger they were then apt to look back and see if they could in any way trace what was the cause and the origin of that danger with which they found themselves face to face. A war between England and Russia would be a terrible catastrophe. Now, the reason why Lord Beaconsfield succeeded was that when he believed it necessary to undertake a duty he would perform that duty perfectly regardless of the unpopularity it would entail. The distinction between him and his great rival was this, that Mr. Gladstone's one object was to retain popularity, no matter the result of it.

An extraordinary demonstration took place at Liverpool on Saturday evening. Some thousands of persons assembled in front of St. George's Hall, where stands the statue of the late Lord Beaconsfield. The statue and pedestal were covered with wreaths and masses of primroses, and several bands paraded about the large area playing "Auld Lang Syne" and other airs, and the crowd increased to such an extent that locomotion became almost impossible. In Birmingham the streets were all aglow with primroses. Some extraordinary sales of the flowers are reported in the town, one tradesman having sold upwards of 30,000 bunches on Saturday. It is estimated that on Saturday and Sunday no fewer than a quarter of a million bunches were sold in Birmingham.

CITY OF LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY.

The seventy-eighth annual festival of the above society was held on Tuesday evening at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P., in the chair.

There was a numerous company, amongst the guests being Mr. Sheriff G. Faudel Phillips, Mr. Truscott, C.C., Mr. Wallford, C.C., Mr. London, C.C., Mr. Pitman, C.C., Mr. Norbury (Treasurer), Mr. C. J. Keily, Mr. Passmore, the Rev. S. B. Crowther-Beynon (who said Grace), Mr. W. H. Laurie, Mr. Harvey, the Chevalier Keily, Mr. J. Toshi, Mr. R. J. Balfour, Major J. H. Symons, Mr. Daintree, Mr. Sprague, Mr. W. H. Pittman, Mr. Batty the Rev. Prebendary Whittington, the Rev. W. R. Arrowsmith, Mr. Bagot, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Beck, Mr. Belton, Mr. J. Mowlem Burt, Mr. P. Coard, the Rev. J. N. Devereux, Mr. J. Duncan, F.I.A., the Rev. T. S. Echallaz, Mr. G. Fein, the Rev. J. Gilmore, Mr. Gilling, Dr. Griffith, the Rev. H. G. Henderson, Mr. A. J. Kingdon, Mr. Lemann, Mr. Maddick, Mr. Macready, Mr. R. J. Patten, the Rev. A. D. Robinson, Mr. Searles, Mr. Sharratt, Mr. Snell, Mr. Webster, Mr. Westley, Mr. B. Whitehead, jun., Mr. J. Whittington, &c.

The Secretary stated that he had received letters expressing regret at not being present from the following among many others:—The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London and numerous Bishops, the Archdeacon of Middlesex, Archdeacon Richardson, Archdeacon Emery, the Dean of St. Paul's, Canon Gregory, Prebendary Rogers, Prebendary Baker, D.D., the Rev. W. Benham, B.D.; Lord Ebury (President), the Duke of Buccleuch, the Marquis of Exeter, Earl Bathurst, the Earl of Wharfedale, the Earl of Glasgow, Lord Wolverton, Lord Derby, Lord Carrington, the Rev. Lord Victor Seymour, Baron de Stern, General Fowler Burton, C.B., Colonel Sir James McGarel Hogg, Bart., K.C.B., Canon Liddon, D.D., and Mr. Thomson Hankey each sent £5 in letters expressing full appreciation of the Charity; Mr. S. Morley, M.P., sent £25, in a letter testifying to the great value of the Society to the suffering poor; Mr. G. Tyrrell, Mr. J. P. Cassiot, and many other friends sent £10 10s. each. Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead regretted that he could not be present, but sent £5 5s.; Mr. W. Palmer promised £5; Mr. C. Alhusen and Mr. P. D. Mocatta sent £5 5s. each; and Mr. W. R. Palmer telegraphed to the Secretary his inability to be present (which he fully intended up to the last moment), and promised £5 5s.; Mr. A. Lyon also wished success to the Festival and sent £5 5s., as he was unable to be present; Mr. H. E. Norton and Mr. A. J. Rucker each sent £2 2s., with regrets for non-attendance.

The society was established in the year 1807 for the relief of a malady which manifests itself at all periods of life in either sex. Since its foundation the society has relieved a total of 406,000 patients, from a few months old to the advanced age of 103. The demands on the society have gone on steadily increasing year by year until in 1884 it had 9,248 patients. Looking at these facts it cannot be for a moment doubted that the society is one of the most deserving of the many benevolent institutions of the country.

After dinner, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been enthusiastically drunk, the CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the City of London Truss Society," paid a tribute to the memory of the late Lord Mayor. Referring to the institution which was the occasion of their gathering, he expressed an opinion that it was one of the most useful, and, at the same time, one of the oldest and noblest institutions of the country and of the time. It was founded in 1807 by Mr. John Tannton, a member of the College of Surgeons, who continued until the day of his death, in the year 1821, to take a warm interest in its welfare and prosperity. His son succeeded him in his position, and he was glad to say that his grandson was still a member of the Committee. It was a proud thing for the society that three generations of that family thus have devoted themselves to its fortunes. A few figures would show how rapid and how steadily had been the growth of the institution, and how great was the demand for the help it rendered to the afflicted. In the year 1803 the number of patients relieved was 227. Ten years later that grew to 3,136, and in successive periods of ten years it became 4,275, 4,449, 5,081, 5,631, 7,858, and 8,725, while last year the number had risen to 9,248. The grand total for the whole period the society had been in existence was 405,526. The sufferers relieved by it were of every age, from only three or four weeks to 103, the age of a woman recently treated at the institution. So far as regarded the financial prospects of the society, the fact of real importance was that every year many of its old annual supporters disappeared and new ones took their places, and he hoped that those who valued the work it was doing would see that the number of permanent subscribers was well kept up. He earnestly hoped that the annual subscriptions might be kept up in the case of an institution which had been in existence for three-quarters of a century, and which was doing a great and beneficent work.

The Rev. Mr. ECHALLAZ proposed the "Health of the Lord Mayor." He referred to the kindness of Alderman Fowler in taking up all the engagements of the late lamented Lord Mayor. Mr. Fowler could have been elected to the mayoralty a second year had he chosen, but he did not desire it. But for the benefit of the City with which he was connected he had not hesitated to set aside his personal inconvenience to come forward and serve in the office of chief magistrate under melancholy circumstances. He considered that all honour was due to the Lord

Mayor for putting the harness again on his back and buckling to like a man, a scholar, and a gentleman as he was.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said that he had been suddenly and unexpectedly called to the position in which he again found himself, but he was anxious to tread in the footsteps of his predecessor, and hoped it might be his good fortune to bring the current year of office to a prosperous conclusion. Among the duties that had come before him none had given him more sincere pleasure than to preside at the gathering on that occasion. He believed he had had that pleasure on three occasions, the first about twenty years ago, and now for a second and third time within the last two years. He looked on the Truss Society, therefore, as a good old friend, and was glad to be there that evening to wish it prosperity.

Prebendary WHITTINGTON replied to the toast of the "Clergy and Ministers of other Denominations," proposed by Mr. TRUSCOTT, C.C.; Mr. Sheriff FAUDEL PHILLIPS acknowledged the toast of the "Sheriffs, the Corporation, and the City Guilds;" while Mr. NORBURY, treasurer; Mr. J. A. KINGDON, one of the surgeons; and Mr. J. WHITTINGTON, secretary, replied to the remaining toasts.

In the course of the evening Mr. J. WHITTINGTON, the secretary, announced a list of subscriptions, amounting to upwards of £530, including £10 10s. from the Chairman, £5 5s. from Mr. Sheriff Phillips, and 25 guineas from the Treasurer, £54 in new annual subscriptions, and thirteen new subscribers.

An excellent selection of vocal music was given under the direction of Mr. Fred Walker, assisted by Miss Marie Etherington, Miss Leonora Pople, Mr. W. Mackway, and Mr. Alfred Moore. Mr. Arthur Payne pleasingly varied this portion of the evening's programme by a brilliant violin solo.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD MAYOR.

The funeral of the late Lord Mayor Nottage took place in St. Paul's Cathedral on Saturday. Throughout the City there were signs of mourning; flags were at half-mast; the bells of the churches were tolled; many shops were closed, and all had shutters up. The line of route for the civic procession from the Guildhall to the Cathedral was thronged, and so great was the gathering in Queen Victoria-street that the precaution taken by the police of erecting barriers at the cross streets proved a necessary aid to the exertions of the constables charged with keeping the roadway clear. The route was further marked out by lines of Volunteers from some of the City regiments. Alderman Fowler, M.P., the Aldermen, the Chairmen of Committees of the Common Council, and the principal officers of the Corporation assembled at the Guildhall soon after 10 o'clock, and thence the official portion of the cortege proceeded to the Mansion House, where thirteen more carriages joined the procession. Next came the open funeral car, soberly but handsomely decorated, and displaying the coat of arms of the deceased and those of the City of London embroidered in heraldic tints on silk. The car was drawn by six horses with violet velvet trappings. Immediately behind the funeral car came two mourning carriages, followed by many private carriages.

Within the Cathedral, there was a gathering of about 3,000 persons. The north side of the dome was appropriated to the Common Council and their friends, the members of the Court all wearing their mazarine gowns. Opposite were Masters and Wardens and clerks representing all the City Companies, with mayors or aldermen from some fifty provincial towns; while conspicuous by the brilliancy of their uniforms were a deputation, including ex-Sheriffs Bailey, Burt, Cowan, and Clarence Smith, from the City Lieutenancy, in scarlet and silver and carrying their white-plumed cocked hats in their hands.

The *Marche Solennelle* of Schubert, played on the organ by Dr. Martin, prepared the congregation for the approach of the funeral procession, and soon afterwards the roll of the muffled drums and the blare of trumpets were heard and the organ voluntary ceased. The great doors at the west end of the hall were thrown wide open, and while the music of the band playing the "Dead March" in *Sad* rang through the building, the members of the Corporation walked slowly up the nave to their places in the stalls. Beside the Lord Mayor were their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Cambridge, who were attended by Colonel the Hon. W. J. Colville and Captain St. John Mildmay. Then came the aldermen, each attended by his chaplain wearing the black gown; the Under-Sheriffs and the Chairmen of Committees of the Court of Common Council. The Rev. Prebendary Whittington accompanied the Lord Mayor as acting chaplain. Dr. Forrest, who continues chaplain to the Lord Mayor, officiated on this occasion as chaplain to the Bishop of London. The Duke of Edinburgh sat on the right of the Lord Mayor's stall, the Duke of Cambridge on the left, the Recorder, M.P., and the Aldermen occupying stalls on the same side of the choir, the Common Serjeant, the Comptroller, Town Clerk, and other principal officers of the Corporation opposite. The sword-bearer, Mr. Winzar, having placed the State sword, with black handle and scabbard, upright in the rest beside the Lord Mayor, took his seat with the Mace-bearer in the stall below. When these were all in their places the service began. The Bishop of London, with the Dean, Canon Gregory, Archdeacon Hessey, Canon Scott Holland, Dr. Simpson, Dr. Baker, the Rev. Stanley Leathes, the Rev. Prebendary Tucker, and other of the Cathedral clergy met the bearers of the body at the west door, and, preceded by the choristers singing the opening sentences, returned to the choir. The coffin was placed on a draped bier under the dome, while the funeral psalms were chanted and the Dean, from a high lectern placed in a position corresponding to that of the pulpit, read the lesson. The fine anthem by Spohr, "Blessed are the departed" was sung, and the coffin was then carried up the choir and lowered through an opening in front of the altar to a platform in the crypt, the Bishop of London reading the committal sentences. The concluding prayers were read by Dr. Simpson. As the procession left the Cathedral, the "Dead March" was played by Dr. Martin. The inscription on the coffin with the arms of the family was—"The Right Honourable GEORGE SWAN NOTTAGE, Lord Mayor of London. Born 10th Nov., 1825. Died 11th April, 1885. 'A man greatly beloved.'—Daniel, x. chap. 11 v."

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LONDON, APRIL 25.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The chances of peace and war still hang in
the balance. The impression which has pre-
vailed both on the Continent and in England
that peace would certainly be maintained
apparently depends upon nothing more sub-
stantial than the general reputation which the
present Government enjoys both abroad and
at home. It is the habit of curs, after barking
loudly, to thrust the tail between the legs and
slink away. It is expected that Mr. GLAD-
STONE and his colleagues will act after their
kind. It is above all things, however, essential
to remember that the ultimate issues of peace
and war do not rest with Mr. GLADSTONE's
Government. It may appear to Russia
that the imbecilities of the Radical Admin-
istration afford an opportunity for advancing
definite schemes of Russian aggression that it
would be unwise to allow to pass. And in
that case the prolongation of diplomatic
negotiations between England and Russia may
be anticipated, until sufficient time has elapsed
to enable Russia to concentrate overwhelming
forces on the Afghan frontier. The evening
journal that seems to be not only the organ of
the Russian Government in England, but to
derive inspiration from the English Cabinet, is
loud in its declarations that the question of the
delimitation of the Afghan frontier has been
practically settled by the concession of all
the Russian claims, and that the sole matter
now in dispute is the question of satisfaction
for General KOMAROFF's attack on the Afghans
at Penjdeh. The English people, however, are
kept by the English Government in a condi-
tion of complete ignorance as to the points
that are actually now in dispute. To all the
inquiries that are addressed to the Ministry in
Parliament evasive answers are returned, or
point-blank refusals to give information are
forthcoming. It is quite time that Parliament
should refuse acquiescence in unnecessary
mysteries, and that the Government, if it is
pursuing an honest and a patriotic policy,
should take the country into its confidence.

The fresh despatches that have been received
from Sir PETER LUMSDEN entirely confirm
the early impressions that were formed as to
the "regrettable incident" at Penjdeh. There
is no doubt that General KOMAROFF com-
mitted an act of unprovoked aggression in
attacking and slaughtering the Afghan force
stationed at Penjdeh, and there is equally
no doubt that he acted in deference to
superior instructions. It is quite certain
that the course he adopted is fully ap-
proved and justified by the Russian Govern-
ment. Whether Great Britain should regard
the incident as one that if not officially dis-
avowed should constitute a *casus belli* must
depend on several considerations, not the least
important of which is the attitude likely to be
observed by the Afghan AMEER and the Afghan

people. It is open to doubt whether the results of the interview between the Viceroy of INDIA and the AMEER at Rawul Pindi have been altogether satisfactory. The reputation of Afghan faith is proverbial. The lines of the LAUREATE are possibly applicable, and it is not wholly improbable that we "we have an excellent ally, it is true; But "only the devil knows what he may do." It seems quite clear that the AMEER is not prepared to allow English soldiers to garrison Herat or English officers to arrange for its defence. If war breaks out there is too much reason to fear that Herat will forthwith fall into Russian hands. And in that case it would probably remain for England to hold Candahar and keep watch and ward on the Indian frontier whilst taking measures to rouse the tribes of Central Asia lately subjected to Russian rule, and thus create a diversion in the rear of the forces of Russian aggression, leaving the Afghans to deal with the invasion of Afghanistan, and striking at Russia where she is really vulnerable—in the Black Sea, the Baltic, and the Pacific.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in proposing a Vote of Credit for £11,000,000, dealt with the causes and the policy that necessitated the Vote in the manner of mystery and with the reserve and the reticence that are characteristic of the present Government. The Vote is intended to include the cost of military operations in the Soudan as well as of the military preparations required in view of other contingencies. Clearly the Vote for the Soudan should be an entirely separate Vote. Mr. GLADSTONE estimates, in a happily sanguine mood, that £4,500,000 out of the entire amount that is asked will suffice to defray the expenditure involved by the policy of "Butcher and Bolt" in the Soudan. This, of course, is one of the PRIME MINISTER'S amusing inaccuracies that coarse people are in the habit of stigmatising by a rude tri-literal word. It is well that there should be no financial juggling on this subject, however, and the Leaders of the Opposition will naturally object to the opportunities that will be afforded by the form in which the Vote of Credit is demanded for concealing the real cost of the unhappy operations in the Soudan. The postponement of the Budget is, perhaps, in the present position of affairs, defensible. What is quite certain is that Mr. CHILDERS will have no agreeable task to discharge whenever it is brought forward. Everyone is agreed that the policy of the present Government is nasty; it will then be found that it is not even cheap. Before the Vote of Credit is granted it may be hoped that the Opposition will insist upon the clear and frank statements of the policy of the Government, which the English people are urgently seeking, and which certainly can be forthcoming without any detriment to the public interests.

The value of the friendship of France, for which Mr. GLADSTONE'S Government has made imbecile sacrifices of the interests of England, has been admirably exemplified during the past few days. The Egyptian Government has at length proceeded to suppress the *Bosphore Egyptien*, the scurrilous newspaper that has been the organ of French intrigue in Egypt. It is, of course, evident that the Egyptian Government has not acted in this matter except at the instigation, or with the acquiescence, of the British authorities. It is recognised that the step now taken is one that the English military authorities ought to have taken long since in the interests of public order and public decency. French officials do not venture to defend the journal, or to justify the way in which it has been conducted. None the less, the French Government has at once taken up the cause of the suppressed newspaper with an obvious anxiety and desire to force a quarrel upon the Egyptian Ministry and the English power that stands at its back. If any technical violations of the capitulations have been committed there can be no desire of the British Government—it is well to remember that it is actually the British Government which is concerned—to refuse redress. But if France is simply anxious to render the position of England in Egypt even more intolerable there than, owing to the folly and feebleness of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Government, it at present is, it is possible that public opinion in England may intervene in a fashion that will not be without its influence on the future of France. The withdrawal of the French Consul-General from Egypt is a measure which both England and Egypt can regard with equanimity.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

The Russian organ in London summed up the present situation with probably sufficient exactitude last night, when it declared that "there is now no question of frontier in dis-

pute," but that what is in dispute is the question whether Russia will or will not give satisfaction for "the operation performed on the Kushk by General KOMAROFF." If it be the case that the British Government has demanded reparation for the Penjdeh massacre, Mr. GLADSTONE has every reason to describe his correspondence with St. Petersburg as one of "extreme gravity." For it appears quite certain that the Government of the CZAR has resolved to decline any further controversy on the subject of General KOMAROFF'S attack on Penjdeh. The attitude now assumed by the Russian Foreign Office with respect to it is simply one of passive and contemptuous indifference. The British Government is abruptly informed that the KOMAROFF "incident" is closed, and will not be reopened, and is invited not to waste any more time about matters which are past, but to proceed with the delimitation of the frontier. Anybody might have foreseen this outcome of Mr. GLADSTONE'S elaborate and prolonged attempts to harmonise the Russian account of the Penjdeh outrage with the version furnished by Sir PETER LUMSDEN. It was not likely that the Russians would ever admit that their agent's account was inaccurate, any more than that they would acknowledge that his course of action was unjustifiable. Nobody but Mr. GLADSTONE would have dreamt of trying to convince the Russians that they were in the wrong, because everybody except Mr. GLADSTONE knows very well that the Russians have from the outset deliberately adopted a policy of aggression, and that they are perfectly unscrupulous as to the means they may employ to carry it out.

It has been shown again and again that Sir PETER LUMSDEN has utterly refuted General KOMAROFF'S lying charges against the Afghans in every particular. We do not propose to enter into the matter in detail, especially as there is really very little to add to what is known when we fully discussed it a week or two ago. It must suffice to note a single point, and that the chief one in dispute. The Russian General's principal accusation was that the Afghans approached the left bank of the river on the 25th of March. It now turns out that the left bank had never been occupied by the Russians at all; it had been held by the Afghans long before the 17th of March, the date of the agreement that neither side should make any further advance. If one thing is established beyond a shadow of a doubt, it is that the Russian attack was absolutely unprovoked and wholly unjustifiable. This being the case, such an outrage cannot possibly be overlooked. The Muscovite organ in London insists on the insignificance of mere "trumpery encampments" such as Penjdeh. But, apart from the strategic importance which so eminent an authority as General HAMLEY has attributed to Penjdeh, it is obvious that the real question involved is whether Russia is to be allowed for ever to continue unchallenged an advance which all the world knows has no other object but to menace India. A British Government that was more happily situated than ours is to-day—a Government which was free to act for the defence of the Empire—would probably at this juncture act with promptitude and decision, would at once send an ultimatum to Russia, and declare war if the reply were unsatisfactory. It would justify its action by the plea that Russia had now flung aside the mask, that she had already committed an act of war, that her hostile intentions were patent and notorious, and that therefore to postpone any longer referring the dispute to the arbitrament of the sword would only be to put off the evil day without any resulting advantage, and with the positive disadvantage of irreparably damaging our prestige in Asia, and above all in India. That, we say, is the bold line which, at the point we have now reached, would be taken by a strong British Government that felt itself unhampered by embarrassments elsewhere, and free to act solely with reference to our Russian foe.

But is this likely to be the course pursued by Mr. GLADSTONE'S Government? Would they dare adopt it, even if they believed it to be justified by the aggressions of Russia? Let anybody who notes the present position of our Government in Europe answer that question for himself. With France exhibiting a spirit of the utmost hostility; with Germany and Austria determined to preserve the pact of Skiermievce by "localising" the war, and known to be at this moment bringing pressure to bear upon the Porte to close the Dardanelles against our ships; with the AMEER himself apparently raising objections to the entry of our troops into Afghanistan—with all this against them, to say nothing of their incomplete unpreparedness for war, how can our

Government be expected to act with vigour or effect? The position in which they find themselves now is the result of their five years' persistence in folly. Their hands are tied by fetters of their own making. In fact, their position is such that the choice of peace or war belongs rather to Russia than to them. The conclusion is obvious, that neither the honour nor the peace of the Empire is safe in the hands of our present rulers. The only possible solution of our difficulties lies in the immediate expulsion from office of the men who have so shamefully abused the trust of the English people.

EGYPT AND THE SOUDAN.

The policy of concentrating the forces of the Empire at the point where its security is most seriously threatened is one which no sensible man will for a moment call in question. And if the necessities of the situation demand that all available reinforcements should be sent at once to India, the withdrawal of a part of our troops from the Soudan for that purpose is one of those measures which must be left to the decision of the responsible authorities. Ministers when asking Parliament for a Vote of Credit have given the nation to understand that this transfer of troops from the Soudan to India is a matter of urgent necessity, arising out of the probability of our being presently engaged in a war with Russia. Under ordinary conditions, therefore, the country might have been content, at so critical a moment, to acquiesce without cavil in any course recommended by HER MAJESTY'S advisers. Bearing in mind, however, the discreditable antecedents of the GLADSTONE Cabinet, it is impossible not to entertain in the present case the most serious misgivings as to what may be the true motive that underlies their declared purpose with regard to the Soudan. The attitude they have now adopted savours too obviously of their familiar policy of Slaughter and Scuttle to approve itself unconditionally to the national judgment. In plain words, it is impossible not to suspect the Government of an endeavour to make the existing difficulty with Russia a pretext for yielding to the clamour of the Peace-at-any-price party at home, who have long been demanding the abandonment of the Soudan and of Egypt.

We have never concealed our own conviction that the recent operations in the Soudan have been undertaken with a total disregard of all considerations of either prudence or foresight. After the fall of Khartoum, instead of tying Lord WOLSELEY'S hands by ordering him to smash the MAHDI at any particular point, Ministers ought to have recognised the fact that the exclusive object of British interference in the Soudan is to defend Egypt from a Soudanese invasion, and to have given Lord WOLSELEY instructions to that effect, leaving to him the responsibility of devising the best means for carrying them out. Instead of adopting this simple and intelligible policy, they chose to embark upon their usual course of Slaughter, now, as we see, to be followed by the invariable sequence of Scuttle. Lord SALISBURY has incisively pointed out, in his speech at Welshpool on Wednesday, the waste that has taken place of British and native blood, as well as of vast sums of money, without any adequate return. We have not only laid great burdens on the finances of the country—burdens which will be felt for some time to come—but we have sacrificed splendid lives like those of GORDON, STEWART, and EARLE, apparently, as Lord SALISBURY said, "for no other cause" "except to keep a Liberal Government in 'office.'" We cannot, alas, undo all this wanton havoc and wicked waste, but even now the nation can and ought to insist that the sacrifices made shall at least not be wholly fruitless. All the ends that we desire to secure might, as we believe, have been effected by a far less expenditure of lives and of money. But that is no reason for throwing away now the results we have already secured. Ministers seem prepared to complete the Wady Halfa railway at present in course of construction on the Nile, to hold Souakim and certain positions in the neighbourhood, and to continue the railway from Souakim as far as may be necessary for the holding of those positions. Less than this even our wretched Government could hardly have undertaken to do; and the English people ought to ensure that at least as much as this shall be done.

Not only in the Soudan, but in Egypt itself, England is destined to be robbed of the fruit of all her labours and the reward of all her sacrifices. The fact that International Control is looming in the near future is, if possible, clearer than ever. Lord SALISBURY, in the

discussion on the Egyptian Loan Bill in the House of Lords on Thursday, once more invited the Government to state what it is that has induced foreign Powers to interfere with the intention of this country to undertake by itself the task of affording financial aid to Egypt. Why was the matter pressed with so much energy by foreign Governments? What is there so exceedingly attractive in being allowed to incur a portion of the debt, that "our dear friends on the Continent should" "insist on contributing the advantage of their "valuable and unquestionable credit?" Lord GRANVILLE had, of course, no explanation to offer—none, at least, that he dared frame in words. It is as plain as the sun in the heavens that the object of foreign Governments is to base upon this joint guarantee a claim for subsequent interference. The arrogant pretensions of France, especially, have been strikingly illustrated this week by her insolent demands with reference to the suppression of the *Bosphore Egyptien*. At such a juncture, when England is friendless in Europe, even Lord SALISBURY is fain to confess that Parliament has no choice but to sanction the disastrous proposals embodied in the Egyptian Loan Bill. The Ministry are so embarrassed by the difficulties of the hour, that a rejection of the Loan Bill would entail results of too grave a character to be faced. That is the state of things to which the British nation has permitted itself to be brought by the man whom it chose to substitute for Lord BEACONSFIELD five years ago, and whom it still permits to retain power.

LORD SALISBURY IN WALES.

Amid the intense eagerness of watching for decisive tidings of peace or war, the general topics dealt with in the Marquis of SALISBURY'S speeches in Wales may fail of meeting with the attention otherwise due to them. Men are more anxious to know if a rupture with Russia will be avoided, and on what terms, than to call to mind Mr. GLADSTONE'S enunciations in former times of his principles of foreign policy, and of the comment on them afforded by most of the events of recent years. Even the question of what the general policy of the Opposition, if called to office, would be, falls somewhat flat at a time when questions between parties fade before the contemplation of a national crisis of such gravity. Yet it is neither uninteresting nor unprofitable to be reminded of the change of affairs since 1878, or even 1880; of the position in which we now stand, and how we have come there; of the general doctrines which the nation at the last General Election was asked to sanction, and of the manner in which they have apparently been applied. One of Mr. GLADSTONE'S principles was to favour peace; another to be always on the side of freedom; another always to give credit to other States for the same honesty of purpose as you claim for yourselves. The last of these, it might be thought, was rather a question of fact than of sentiment, and should be judged according to the antecedents and known tendencies of the particular Government concerned. The second, if not implying a universal sympathy with insurgents, was of so vague and elastic a character, that it might almost be invoked on behalf of any cause by those who would vindicate it.

Lord SALISBURY had the advantage of being able to show that the Government has been carrying on small wars almost ever since they came into power. It is to be remembered that though Lord BEACONSFIELD'S Ministry was denounced for its warlike tendencies, the only wars in which it was engaged were during the last year and a half of its six years' duration. Lord BEACONSFIELD'S war preparations enabled him to carry through his policy as regards Russia and Turkey without a breach of peace. Of the two wars which followed the Zulu war, there was one for which the Home Government could fairly be held responsible. The Afghan war no doubt remained as a legacy to their successors; but perhaps, if its results had not been thrown away, we might at this moment be confessedly reaping advantage from it. But since Mr. GLADSTONE'S accession to power we have had not only the Afghan war, but the Transvaal war, the Egyptian war, the two wars in the Soudan, and now there is the threat of war with Russia. The Transvaal would probably not have stirred under a Government known to approve and to be in favour of maintaining the annexation. On the other hand, its peaceable surrender would have been consistent with the professed views of Mr. GLADSTONE, and far less disastrous and discreditable than what actually took place. The Ministry chose an alternative which combined blood-

shed, defeat, and loss of that reputation which is the equivalent of strength.

As to Egypt, the European Concert so much talked of by the PRIME MINISTER was abandoned at the wish of France for a joint naval demonstration with that Power, which ultimately abandoned us and left us to act alone. The military preparations were postponed to the last moment, and then carried out in haste, but too late to save Alexandria from destruction. The action taken against ARABI and his party, however justifiable, was calculated to startle those who held literally to Mr. GLADSTONE'S dictum as to favouring the interests of freedom. In the Soudan, after an army officered by Englishmen had been allowed without remonstrance to move against and suffer annihilation from fanatical insurgents, the Government, by an unparalleled exercise of power in a country not avowedly dependent on the British Crown, required Egypt to abandon her provinces, refused to deal with the victorious insurrection except by a professedly peaceful mission, but presently drift into what was practically a war with the *de facto* ruler of the Soudan, which they fail either to attempt to terminate by a peace or to follow up with vigour until a year later, when Khartoum can be no longer saved. Their attempts to convince Russia of our friendly intentions, and to maintain a strong united front in Afghanistan, are bringing us to the point of a gigantic struggle with Russia in order to redeem our pledges to defend the country in which we abandoned our strong positions. Such is the history of the last five years, and Lord SALISBURY did not fail to impress its moral on his audience.

What, it is asked, is the policy which the Conservatives would substitute for all this? Some, who decline to withdraw their support from a Ministry in whom nevertheless their confidence is shaken, say that they feel no certainty or strong ground for believing that others would do the work to better purpose. Lord SALISBURY was able to quote good authority for the Leaders of an Opposition declining to commit themselves to details until called upon to take office. The function of an Opposition is to criticise. But the precise steps by which errors may be mended cannot always be indicated merely from the information which is laid before the Houses of Parliament. Much may depend on what those in office can learn from professional advisers and from information only known to Ministers. Thus, as Lord SALISBURY pointed out, he was doubtful of the value of Penjdeh. But it was a point on which he would hesitate to pronounce without knowing the opinions of military men whom the Government might and doubtless would consult.

One general principle, however, he did hold, and that was the paramount importance of preserving our Empire—not as a necessary burden, but as a cherished necessity of national life. By its means the blessings of British civilisation are spread far and wide throughout the world—a plea, it may be observed, which those who most cavil at it in the case of England are always ready to urge on behalf of Russia. Advantages accrue to the people of this country through the opening so afforded to commerce, to investment of capital, and to emigration. But besides these there is the great gain to the character and tone of the nation, in being interested, as Lord SALISBURY pointed out, in this common and ennobling heritage; in being raised into a wider sphere than the mere parochial, petty, and individual considerations in which they might otherwise be absorbed. It is through this wide empire that our public affairs receive an impress which those of a limited self-contained community cannot have, and which makes those who take part in them in touch with all races and regions of the globe. The loss in curtailment of the Empire would be the loss not only of territory or power, but of intellectual and moral greatness to the people.

What, then, is the attitude the Conservative Leader would have us hold towards foreign nations? Not one of aggression, but one of firmness, and above all one definite and outspoken. The hesitation and mutability of the Liberal Cabinet, owing, probably, more to the necessity of composing differences among themselves than to vacillation or uncertainty in particular indications, has at once weakened our influence and endangered peace. Peace, too, has not been made safer by protestations of extreme anxiety to maintain it. Such protestations mislead other countries. They draw them on to presume on the unwillingness of those who make them to resist encroachments, till they involve themselves in some step which, by its irritating character, makes peace impracticable. A Government which offers no needless provo-

cation, but a quarrel with whom, whatever its result, is likely to give much trouble in proportion to the worth of the object in dispute, is more likely to be left at peace by its neighbours. This is the attitude which Lord SALISBURY wishes to see England assume—in the case of Russia to make it clear at what point she will feel bound to oppose her advances at all hazards, and in all similar cases to make it clear what the limit will be beyond which concession or conciliation would be impossible.

Those who profess to dread Lord SALISBURY'S accession to office would do well to compare the policy indicated in this speech with the policy of those now responsible for affairs. His later speech at Welshpool, which we cannot now deal with in detail, touched the two sufficiently important questions of our commercial tariff, and the system by which real property alone has to bear the constantly multiplied weight of local imposts. These matters, if cast into the shade for an instant by complications abroad, will not improbably be subjects much in the mind of the next Parliament. If on the now pressing topic of foreign policy—of which, too, in spite of the wishes of the Government, England has had for several years to think so much—there are any who wish to satisfy themselves of the real attitude of the two parties, they cannot do better than consider deeply the picture both of what has been and what should be, drawn by Lord SALISBURY at Wrexham.

ROYALTY IN IRELAND.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has been to Ireland, has seen Ireland in its every phase, from Sunday-school demonstrations in Phoenix-park to steeplechases at Punchestown, from the squalor of Dublin back streets to the grandeur of the Gap of Dunloe; and it is hardly too much to say that he has, with the PRINCESS, conquered Ireland. True it is that at Mallow and elsewhere sedition has endeavoured, for the most part impotently, to raise its head. But the unmistakable outcome of the Royal visit has been loyalty and little else. No one can have travelled in Ireland recently without learning at least one thing, that there has long been an ardent desire in the breast of the Irish peasant to show that he is not so bad as his enemies, and even his friends, have painted him; that he would give a hearty welcome to any of Queen VICTORIA'S children who would become the guests of Ireland; and that he would speed their parting with the hope which has now become stereotyped, that their Royal Highnesses would come to Ireland again, and very often. In Kerry particularly there has lingered a lively remembrance of the QUEEN'S visit nearly a quarter of a century ago. "HER MAJESTY had luncheon in that cottage, yer honour, and tea by that waterfall. And after tea she planted them six trees, God bless her!" Even within the sound of Shandon Bells the feeling was the same. The Irishman has been only too glad to show the loyal and affectionate side of his nature. Whatever straws of hostile feeling have floated to the surface have been evidences only of factious opposition. We do not shut our eyes to these, but in estimating the true effect of the PRINCE'S visit to Ireland we find that we can well afford to ignore them.

The visit was well timed. It came at a moment when Ireland was everywhere germinating with hopes of the better future which is to spring from her gloomy past. Ireland had only just succeeded in deserving Royal recognition when she obtained it. Sedition has been at least tacitly disapproved, while loyalty is openly encouraged. It may be that of late years Ireland has not had her full share of such recognition. At one time, a few months before the lamented PRINCE CONSORT breathed his last, rumour pointed to the probability of a Royal residence on the other side of St. George's Channel. Since that time the face of the country and the bearing of the population have changed for the worse in almost every respect. Still, in devotion to the Crown the last few days have shown that there has been less change than Englishmen have been led to suppose. Whatever denunciation of the Saxon may resound on the platform and through the press, the masses of the Irish people—from the cotter in Connaught and Munster to the Prelate now sitting in council in the Albergo della Minerva at the Eternal City—love and reverence their Sovereign with a fealty which has needed only a hurried sojourn to rouse it in all its native strength.

Strongly, however, as we may approve of the PRINCE'S visit to Ireland and of the reception with which he has been greeted there, we

cannot think that the time has yet come for relaxing the reins of government or for repealing, or even modifying, the Act for the Prevention of Crime. The VICEROY still needs the powers given him in 1882, though he may use them sparingly enough. Indeed, there is one provision of the Act which might well be resorted to less sparingly than it is. We mean that by which, when any copy of a newspaper circulated in Ireland appears to the LORD-LIEUTENANT to contain matter inciting to the commission of treason or of any act of violence or intimidation, the LORD-LIEUTENANT may order that all copies of the newspaper containing such matter shall be forfeited to HER MAJESTY, and any constable duly authorised by the LORD-LIEUTENANT may seize the same. The liberty of the Press is a bulwark of the Constitution, or at least a palladium, and we shall hardly be suspected of the slightest wish to trench upon it. But it is no infringement of that liberty to check it, and to check it with a stern hand, when it degenerates into licence. It is by the irresponsible sedition and unarraigned outrages of the Press and platform-orators that much of the bad feeling which exists, or has existed, between England and Ireland has been nourished, if not generated. And many of those who know Ireland best refuse, and have consistently refused, to believe that these sorry utterances represent the real feeling of the nation at large. The PRINCE and PRINCESS will not have crossed St. George's Channel in vain if there is a diminution in the extent to which this evil prevails. If the good sense of those who are responsible for its existence does not teach them to mend their tone, the VICEROY must needs undertake the task.

THE GOTH AT ETON.

Changes are fast coming over the world of our Public Schools. The old order of things is quickly giving place, where it has not already given place, to the new. The Charter-house has gone afield, and the present generation knows it only as firmly rooted in its new home. St. Paul's has migrated to the far West, and the old buildings are now described by the Mr. ROBINS of the day as "these highly eligible business premises." The die of Christ's Hospital is cast, and Newgate Street will in future have to content itself with a Science School for a comparatively small number of day-boys. Changes such as these are the inevitable outcome of modern requirements. Sentiment rebels against them: reason cannot but approve. Fresh air and exercise are in modern days necessary for all "schools" and seminaries of sound learning and religious "education." At whatever price it be, these things must be had. Though memories are to fade, and associations to be lost, the time imperiously demands the freedom and healthfulness of the country, and no reasonable man repines at such necessary changes. But when some Governing Body of the day contemplates making an unnecessary change in the face of an old school, then is the time, if ever, for protest and for criticism.

Uncontradicted rumour credits the authorities of Eton with such a fell purpose as this. Not content with the Upper School in which generations of Etonians have imitated and rendered, more or less feebly, the gestures of PITT and the perorations of BURKE, the Governing Body must needs build them a "Speech Room," modelled, no doubt, on the example given in many a less notable place of education. We can well imagine the structure that is to be. Red brick and white stone will fairly put out of countenance the time-worn buildings of HENRY VI. It will be out of place, as are the garish piles which the Benchers of the Temple now rear among the old houses that GOLDSMITH and JOHNSON, COKE and BLACKSTONE, and in later days BYLES and MAULE, loved so well. Worst of all, it is to stand, in its glaring newness, between the old Hall and the weatherbeaten Chapel, the last almost unique in its faithful portraiture of the Perpendicular style. Where once the College servants brewed the ale that was to be served at the buttery hatch, or drained by thirsty cricketers in Hall on Beaver Day, there is to arise this last infirmity of modern taste. In such a place, the south-eastern corner of the schoolyard, any new building would be incongruous. How much more so a building which will be unnecessary as well as out of place!

All the world, Etonian and non-Etonian alike, knows the old Upper School. It is worthy to stand where it does, on CHRISTOPHER WREN'S arcade forming the north end of the quadrangle. In it some three or four of the junior masters find it all they can do to make

their voices heard, for there are no partitions save curtains to divide one form from another. In it the school assembles now and again to hear a speech from the Headmaster on some matter of grave import, or to listen anxiously to the reading over of the result of "Trials," which were once periodical but now come every "half." In it, too—and for this purpose it is specially well suited—are delivered the annual "Speeches" on King GEORGE'S birthday, and their more modest precursors every schooltime. It is the scene, too, of "Declamations," when one King's Scholar argues against another on such a question as whether the presence of astrologers was or was not a good for the Roman Empire of TIBERIUS CAESAR, and is rewarded by a handsomely bound copy of GROTE or MERIVALE. For such purposes as these last, if not for oral teaching, the Upper School is eminently adapted. From its walls look down the worthies of Eton: on its wainscot are their names, rudely carved but religiously preserved. There, if anywhere, one had thought that the genius of the place still lingered. But no. The Governing Body, a body only formed under the Public Schools Act, has decreed otherwise. There is to be a new Speech Room, perhaps dignified with the name of its proposer at a meeting of this irresponsible Body. It is perhaps fortunate that the statue raised by Provost GODOLPHIN nearly two centuries ago to the "never-fading memory of HENRY VI." will have its back turned to this desecration. But the building will stand, in all its newness, between the old Clock Tower and the old Chapel, where lies all that was mortal of Sir HENRY WOTTON—once Provost and always the friend of gentle IZAAK WALTON—beneath an unnamed stone, but the most curious epitaph that ever man chose for himself:—

Hic jacet hujus sententiae primus auctor,
Disputandi pruritus, Ecclesiarum scabies:
Nomen alias quaere.

We might wish a worse fate to those who have devised this thing than that they should lie, one and all, with the legend "*Ædificandi pruritus, Etonæ scabies*," above them. Their name will be writ large at Eton, if their scheme is to reach fruition.

THE RELIEF OF TRUSTEES.

If ever there was a class which needed the sheltering care of paternal legislation, it is the class of men who are trustees. For in these days they really form a class. It is the class of men to whom are entrusted those unselfish duties, those works of true kindness, which few hands are at once able and willing to do. They are the country parson and the hard-working barrister, the widower or bachelor uncle living in a small street near Portman-square, who is guardian to the children when the parents' duty lies far away in India, who is trusted by the sick man lying on the bed of death to do what is right for those that are left behind. We may be quite sure that old Mark Armsworth was trusted by all Whitford, from Elsley Vavasour, *né* John Briggs, the poet, to Tom Thurnall, the rolling stone that gathered so little moss; that little Mr. Fare-brother was trustee and executor to half his parishioners in *Middlemarch*, just as the compliant Twemlow was the counsellor and friend of all Podsnappery. To such men as these it is so easy to say "Yes" and so difficult to say "No." "Yes" may perhaps mean an increase of income in the present, coupled only with uncertain dangers in the future; and to say "No" is a hard and ungracious duty. But it is a duty which cannot be evaded by those who have given hostages to fortune, by those on whose well-being the welfare of many others depends. And so it is that the components of the class are comparatively few, and the duties of executorship and guardianship are more and more centred on those few. And their only consolation is in the feeling "*Non omnis moriar*." Whatever betide, some part of my life's work will survive the day of Libitina.

It is now nearly forty years since a modicum of relief was doled out to this long-suffering body. The Trustee Relief Act of 1847 did something for them. It gave them one haven of refuge, though unfortunately the harbour dues are still almost as prohibitive as ever. They can, in a case of genuine difficulty, pay into the hands of the Chancery Division the funds or property entrusted to their charge, and then they are safe. This, however, is an extreme course which many trustees are reluctant to follow. They know that no estate passes through Chancery without being well bled by solicitors' and Court fees. They hesitate to sacrifice the goodwill, perhaps, and something of the income certainly, which exist in the present in deference to scruples

which may after all be groundless. They obtain, it may be, the advice of "counsel learned in the law." He balances the *pros* and *cons*, says that the question is one of great doubt, and leaves the solution of the problem which has, may be, arisen on a complex will as far off as ever it was. His opinion is no guarantee of safety; it no more insures the trustee against all risks than the paper on which it is evolved. The trustee shuts his eyes to the danger, and, years after, his estate, in the hands of his widow and children, is saddled with the consequences of an honest, though mistaken, course. To those who feel in all its keenness the proverbial difficulty of saying "No," the Act of 1847 is little or no relief. And it is no solution of the difficulty to say that such men as these should never be trustees at all. The fact remains that they are. An illustration or two from recent numbers of the *Law Reports* will evidence this truth. The law says, for instance, that when trustees sell any part of the trust estate they must attend in person to receive the purchase money, or else they must authorise the purchaser to pay it into a bank to their joint account. They cannot simply and blindly employ a solicitor, giving him *carte blanche* to undertake all their duties in the matter. But if a trustee is abroad, no one can expect a purchaser to be hunting all over the globe for the purpose of finding the man to whom he is to pay his money. Then, and then only, may a solicitor be safely employed. Nor can the trustees employ one of themselves to receive the money. If they have no banking account, and if they live in different parts of the country, still they must all attend in London or wherever the purchase is completed, to receive the money and satisfy the reasonable scruples of the purchaser by taking the notes across the table, one and all of them. If they fail to do so, or allow a defaulter to take the money, they must, one and all, make good the loss. The test of liability always is, Have the trustees acted as prudent men would have acted in dealing with their own property? Prudent business men in their dealings incur risk; that may and must happen in all human affairs. Unfavourable seasons cause disaster to fall upon the agricultural interest. For that reason, and for that reason alone, loss has been sustained. Can the trustees be reasonably visited with such a loss? A broker is employed in the ordinary course of business; the broker is a respectable man, but he absconds as respectable men sometimes do, and the trust money is lost. Is the trustee to bear the loss? To each of these suggestions the Courts have lately replied in the negative. But the very fact that they are maintained, and with a measure of success, shows how narrow is the escape which these trustees have had.

That the tide of modern legislation is now setting in the same direction is shown by the Bill now before Parliament, which will, we hope, steer its course safely through the quicksands of next July. It is "backed" by Mr. Ince, and Mr. Ince, as a Chancery Queen's Counsel of long experience, should know, if any one, how sorely it is needed. His reform, however, will at the best be partial only. His proposals, taken shortly, are three in number. First, the "two-thirds" rule is distinctly formulated. It is not to be a breach of trust in the past to have lent money "on the security of house property in England to an amount exceeding one-half, and not exceeding two-thirds, of the value of such property at the time of making such loan;" and in the future the trustee will be safe in lending trust money upon the security of house property anywhere in the world, if the amount lent does not exceed two-thirds of the value of the property at the time of the loan. It is still to be open for the settlor or creator of the trust to say that this rule shall not apply to or save his trustees, and a trustee must not lend upon a lease which has less than sixty years to run, nor, of course, when he has no power given him to invest the trust funds in land at all. Minor provisions exempt a trustee from the necessity of inquiring into the title to the reversion when he is lending upon a life interest, and empower him to sell under the general conditions of sale "published or adopted by any Law Society and commonly used in the neighbourhood where the property is being sold." With this ends the second group of enabling clauses. The third and last is the best of the vintage. By it the trustee of the future will be able to authorise a solicitor to receive trust money instead of receiving it personally. The solicitor will produce his written authority and the purchase-deed executed and receipted by the trustee. Then the purchaser will be safe, as will the trustee also, unless "either in bad faith or negligently, or for a period longer than the due course of business requires," he allows the solicitor, who may possibly prove a defaulter, to retain the trust money in his hands.

Of the utility of such a provision as this there can be no question. But we should be glad to think that the authors of this Bill were more sure of the ground beneath their feet than would seem to be the case from their final clause, which is careful to say that "nothing in this Act shall operate to render any trustee liable in any case where he would not have been liable if this Act had not been passed, or to increase the liability of any trustee."

Reviews.

THE BLAND BURGESS PAPERS.*

The selections from the Bland Burgess papers which Mr. James Hutton has published, are of considerable value and interest. It is very probable that not even those of our readers who are best acquainted with the period covered by those papers will have anything but a very shadowy idea of the personality of the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whose letters and correspondence are here presented to the reader. But Sir James Bland Burgess, though not a great man himself, mixed with great men and was concerned in great events; and a man who held the important place which he held at so critical a time as that during which he held it, cannot fail to be an interesting personage to those who study the history of that time. We do not by any means admit that he was so great a personage as he thought himself to be, and the vein of supreme self-satisfaction which runs through his letters is calculated to reduce rather than to elevate the opinion of him which the dispassionate reader is likely to form. Nor can we place him so high in the poetic hierarchy as he would doubtless have claimed to be placed, and it is very amusing to read the highflown panegyrics on his poetry in which partial friends indulge. If these panegyrics could be accepted in their entirety, it would be clear that no collection of English poets would be complete which excluded Sir James Bland Burgess; whereas, truth to tell, it would greatly surprise the student of English poetry to find his name brought forward even in the most comprehensive and wide-reaching anthology. It is not, however, with the poet but with the Under-Secretary that we are mainly concerned in the present volume, which as one dealing with the social and political gossip of a very interesting period has considerable claims upon our attention. His family name is stated by a somewhat bold etymology to be a corruption of Bruges, and the founder of the family settled in Reading in the reign of Henry VII., his descendants, despite the forfeiture of their estate for their loyalty to the Crown during the Great Rebellion, continuing to occupy a conspicuous place among the landed gentry of Berkshire. George Burgess, his father, was, like our hero himself, educated at Westminster School, and married, under romantic circumstances which are graphically described in the volume before us, Miss Somerville, a daughter of an ancient and honourable family in Scotland. Their son, who was born in 1752, after passing through Westminster, but apparently not succeeding in getting his election either to Christ Church or Trinity, entered at University College, where he had for his tutor the future Lord Stowell. We hear but little of his University career, strictly so-called, but a good deal of amusing information is furnished as to his Vacation Rambles. In the course of these, he visited France and Italy, and there is a wonderful freshness and reality about the extracts from his journals, which Mr. Hutton has reproduced after exciting and condensing superfluous matter. At Castel Gandolfo he saw "Il Pretendente Carlo Stuarto," who looked thoughtful and melancholy; but though he was by that time fat and bloated, and bore the marks of habitual inebriety, he brightened up at meeting an Englishman. Another interview must be quoted more at length—it is that which the young undergraduate had with the then Pope, Clement XIV. After waiting some time while his Holiness sipped his coffee after his *siesta*, we were desired by one of the chamberlains to walk into his apartment. We were conducted through his bath-chamber, a large room, whitewashed, without any ornament or furniture except a plain table, a few chairs, a bed without tester or curtains, and a crucifix of wood as large as life. We found the Pope sitting in the adjoining room at a great table covered with a Turkey carpet, on which were heaped a vast number of books and papers, in an armchair close by a good fire. Advancing a few steps we bent the knee, on which he came forward and lifted us up, saying with a smile: "This ceremony does well enough in public, but here it is unnecessary; besides, you heretic Englishmen are not accustomed to such reverences. It is a pity you are heretics, for among you are many great men. For my part, I wish we were all of one faith. Don't you think—addressing himself to me—"that that might have been contrived?" "Holy Father," said I, "when the differences in opinion between us first arose, the world was in a state of semi-barbarism. Both parties, from being warm, grew outrageous, and mutual violence produced mutual hatred. More coolness and more knowledge might have dispelled prejudices, which, I apprehend, are now become articles of faith too powerful over to be overturned." "You say well," he replied. "Il Papa Clemente and his successors did not understand the nature of Englishmen. Had they acted differently we might still have been friends. Your Queen Elizabeth was a great woman, and I believe, had we been contemporaries, the fatal schism which I have often lamented would never have happened." He then asked us if we had visited Civita Vecchia. We told him we had not. "When you do," said he, "you will see what I am doing there as well as the spiritual condition of my dominions. It has long been a reproach to us that, situated as we are on a fine sea-coast, we have neither harbours nor trade. If I live long enough I shall see my Romans in possession of both."

* Selections from the Letters and Correspondence of Sir James Bland Burgess, Bart., with Notices of His Life. Edited by James Hutton.—London: John Murray, 1885.

As we were thus discoursing a chamberlain entered, and said a few words apart to the Pope. His Holiness asked us to wait for a few minutes till he returned, as his presence was required on some business. He thereupon went out and left us to take a survey of his apartment. All this time we had been standing near the fire, while his Holiness partly stood, and partly sat on the table. I had a great curiosity to know what were his studies when we entered. I therefore took up his book, which he had turned down open, and found it to be a treatise of controversial divinity in Latin. The other books in the room were chiefly of the same nature. Everything in it was very comfortable, though no fiery or parade was to be seen. In a few minutes his Holiness returned with a bundle of papers in his hand. "I am sorry," he said, "that some unforeseen business will prevent me from conversing any longer with you at present, but I am not my own master, and the interests of my people must be my first care." On this we were about to withdraw, and were preparing to bend the knee, when he came up to us and said with a smile: "Though you are heretics, Christian charity makes me wish well to you. *Il mio caro Buffano Jenkins* can tell you that I know how to esteem good men of every description. I wish you health and happiness, and, as the blessing of an old man, though you do not think him infallible, cannot hurt you and may have weight with Heaven, take mine"—putting his hands on our heads—"and may the God of Heaven bless and preserve you." The scene was too affecting to admit of a reply. We received his blessing with thankfulness, and, with tears in our eyes, retired from his presence.

Mr. Hutton compares with this the story told by Bourrienne of the visit of Pius VII. to the Imperial Printing-office in Paris:—

One of the workmen refused to take off his cap, an act of rudeness that drew murmurs from his comrades. "Uncover yourself, young man," said the Pope in gentle tones, "that I may give you my blessing. No one was ever the worse for the blessing of an old man."

And we may cap it with one which the late Dean of Westminster used to delight to tell of a visit paid by his sister to the venerable Ambassador to whom during her work at Constantinople she owed so much. That visit is thus described in Dr. Stanley's sketch of his sister's life:—

It was his ninety-third birthday, and on the morrow, in their evening interview, the aged statesman spoke of the intercourse which he had maintained with successive Popes, and described his remark to one of them: "You are not my sovereign, and I am not your subject; you are a Catholic, and I am a Protestant; but it cannot be wrong for me to ask or for you to give me your blessing." In allusion to this, at the end of their conversation, she said: "Lord Stratford, you are not my sovereign, and I am not your subject; you are a Protestant, and I am a Catholic; but it cannot be wrong for me to ask or for you to give me your blessing." She knelt to receive it, and with that benediction they parted to meet no more.

But to return to young Burgess himself, from whom we have now wandered rather far. When he had finished his University career he went to the Bar, and while studying at Lincoln's Inn was brought a good deal into contact with an old friend of his father's, Mr. John Lamb, a well-known Army agent at a time when Army agents made more than they do now, who proved a firm friend to him through life, and left to him and his children a considerable fortune. He also at this time met his first wife, Miss Noel, aunt of the future Lady Byron, whom he married in 1777. Perhaps one of the most interesting letters in the book is that in which, forty years later, Lady Milbanke announces to her brother-in-law her daughter's engagement to Lord Byron, and reports of them on their return from their honeymoon that "they are both well and as happy as youth and love can make them." But this is anticipating, and we must return to the time when young Burgess, before his marriage, was living in chambers in Lincoln's Inn. It was there that his acquaintance began with William Pitt, who was similarly situated, and a very curious and interesting account is furnished of a dinner which the young barrister gave when the Northumberland Militia were quartered upon the lawyers during the Gordon riots:—

When my turn arrived I invited the four military gentlemen, our committee, and six other persons the best qualified I could meet with, among whom were my father, Lord Carmarthen, and Mr. Gibbon, the historian, who was then at the zenith of his fame, and who certainly was not at all backward in availing himself of the deference universally shown to him, by taking both the lead, and a very ample share of the conversation, in whatever company he might honour with his presence. His conversation was not, indeed, what Dr. Johnson would have called *talk*. There was no interchange of ideas, for no one had a chance of replying, so fugitive, so variable, was his mode of discoursing, which consisted of points, anecdotes, and epigrammatic thrusts, all more or less to the purpose, and all pleasantly said with a French air and manner which gave them great piquancy, but which were withal so desultory and unconnected that, though each separately was extremely amusing, the attention of his auditors sometimes flagged before his own resources were exhausted. At my request, however, there appeared to be no reason to apprehend such an untoward issue, for one of his principal guests was his *fidus Achates*, Colonel Holroyd, now Lord Sheffield, his admiring friend and future biographer; and the rest of us were young untried men, except my father, who, having never previously been in the company of this celebrated person, was more inclined to listen than to talk.

In these favourable circumstances Mr. Gibbon, nothing loth, took the conversation into his own hands, and very brilliant and pleasant he was during the dinner, and for some time afterwards. He had just concluded, however, one of his best foreign anecdotes, in which he had introduced some of the fashionable levities of political doctrine then prevalent, and, with his customary tap on the lid of his snuffbox, was looking round to receive our tribute of applause, when a deep-toned but clear voice was heard from the bottom of the table, very calmly and civilly impugning the correctness of the narrative, and the propriety of the doctrines of which it had been made the vehicle. The historian, turning a disdainful glance towards the quarter whence the voice proceeded, saw, for the first time, a tall, thin, and rather ungainly-looking young man, who now sat quietly and silently eating some fruit. There was nothing very prepossessing or very formidable in his exterior, but, as the few words he had uttered appeared to have made a considerable impression on the company, Mr. Gibbon, I suppose, thought himself bound to maintain his honour by suppressing such an attempt to dispute his supremacy. He accordingly undertook the defence of the propositions in question, and a very animated debate took place between him and his youthful antagonist, Mr. Pitt, and for some time was conducted with great talent and bril-

liancy on both sides. At length the genius of the young man prevailed over that of his senior, who, finding himself driven into a corner from which there was no escape, made some excuse for rising from the table and walked out of the room. I followed him, and finding that he was looking for his hat, I tried to persuade him to return to his seat. "By no means," said he. "That young gentleman is, I have no doubt, extremely ingenious and agreeable, but I must acknowledge that his style of conversation is not exactly what I am accustomed to, so you must positively excuse me." And away he went in high dudgeon, notwithstanding that his friend had come to my assistance. When we returned into the dining-room we found Mr. Pitt proceeding very tranquilly with the illustration of the subject from which his opponent had fled, and which he discussed with such ability, strength of argument, and eloquence, that his hearers were filled with profound admiration.

Lord Carmarthen's acquaintance with the future Prime Minister began at that dinner; and another of the young host's friends, Mr. Lamb, to whom we have already referred, supplied to Pitt the original idea of the Sinking Fund and of the Legacy Duties. Burgess himself rendered the Minister valuable assistance in 1783, when he proved that neither law nor parliamentary usage required that the Mutiny Bill should originate in the House of Commons. There was some difficulty about the acknowledgment of this service which Pitt intended to make, and our hero found that his seat for Seaford, which the gratitude of the Prime Minister offered him, could only be obtained by paying down £5,000. This favour was therefore declined with thanks, and it was not till 1787 that he entered Parliament for Helston, a nominative borough of Lord Carmarthen's. The most striking incident in his Parliamentary career was his gallant defence of Warren Hastings, of whom he was a warm friend and supporter, and it was with no little surprise and astonishment that he found Pitt voting against the great Proconsul on the Begum charge. The following curious account which he gives is worth quoting:—

Some time after he had made common cause with Mr. Hastings's prosecutors, I happened to meet him at Lord Carmarthen's. The conversation after dinner chancing to turn upon this unlucky subject, a considerable variety of opinions were expressed by the company. An accidental allusion being made to his unexpected change of sentiments respecting the Begum charge, Pitt suddenly rose from his chair, and, striding to the fireplace, remarked in a dignified tone to Lord Carmarthen, "We have had enough of this subject, my Lord. I will thank you to call another." "With all my heart," said Lord Carmarthen; "I am as sick of the subject as you can be. So come, Pitt, sit down and put the bottle round, for, strange to tell, it stands by you."

In Mr. Dundas no such fastidious delicacy was observable. He enjoyed in its full plenitude the victory he had gained, and made no secret of the feelings with which he contemplated his triumph. Of this, as well as of the style and manners of Mr. Dundas himself, a memorable instance occurred some time after the impeachment had been carried into the House of Lords. As I was present on the occasion I can vouch for the perfect authenticity of the incident. Lord Maitland, one of the managers, came up to Mr. Dundas in the House of Commons, and asked his opinion on some point respecting the impeachment. Dundas declined to give any. Lord Maitland urged him strongly and said, "You cannot be indifferent about our success." "Truth, am I," answered Dundas; "ye have done as we wanted, and I shall give myself no trouble about what comes o' ye." "Will you say so to anyone else?" Lord Maitland asked. "Truth, shall I," replied the other. On that Lord Maitland called aside Fitzpatrick and Sheridan, also managers, to whom, without shame or scruple, Dundas repeated what he had just said.

When I volunteered in the House of Commons to interpose on behalf of Warren Hastings, I was so entirely a stranger to him that I did not know him even by sight, and most probably he had never heard my name. That eventful evening, however, made him desirous to become acquainted with the stranger who had stood by him when his own friends had abandoned him. He accordingly lost no time in calling upon me to return thanks. Our conversation was deeply interesting, but I made a note of only one passage. I explained to him that, independently of my own conviction that his cause was just and honourable, I had been moved to take part in his defence by the positive instructions of my father, who had died about two years previously. Expecting that I should one day have a seat in Parliament, and foreseeing that an attack would be made upon Hastings, to whom he attributed the preservation of our power in India, he charged me to abstract myself from all personal and party considerations, and support him liberally and manfully. Mr. Hastings was deeply moved by my little tale. The tears ran down his cheeks, as he pressed my hand and exclaimed, "Would to Heaven that your father could now listen to the effusion of my gratitude, and witness the sincere acknowledgment I make to him and to you!" That interview was the beginning of a warm and intimate friendship which lasted, without a flaw, for thirty years, and terminated only at the death of that great and venerable man.

It was mainly owing, in 1789, to the influence of his old friend Lord Carmarthen, who had now become Duke of Leeds—a most interesting chapter of history is, by the way, supplied in the narrative, now for the first time published, of the interview between the Duke and the King, some five years later—that Mr. Burgess became Under-Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, and his nomination was creditable both to his patron and himself, for the Duke had expressed himself strongly against the support given by his nominee to the opponents of the Slave Trade, intimating to him that "he should cease from troubling the merchants of Bristol and Liverpool." The member for Helston declined to vote against his convictions, but offered to resign his seat, and the Duke, so far from taking offence at his independence, offered him the appointment in question. The organisation of the Foreign Office was at that time very defective, and Mr. Burgess set vigorously to work to reform it, encountering in the attempt, as might have been expected, a considerable degree of unpopularity. But he won the confidence of his chiefs, and his conduct was much approved by George III., a far shrewder judge than the Radicals of the present day are willing to admit. Space will not allow of our following the new Under-Secretary through his official career, though there is very much which is valuable to the students of the time in the narrative of that career, which Mr. Hutton has with

commendable industry compiled from his letters and other papers. We cannot, however, resist quoting one of his letters which conveys a valuable lesson for the present day. Writing to Lord Auckland, of whom a very bad character is given by Sir James Burges, which is not by any means borne out by less-prejudiced sources of information, he says in reference to a flippant observation of his chief protesting against war being waged on the ground that National Dignity was engaged:—

I am, however, one of those who think very highly of this same National Dignity. As the good character of an individual is his best possession, and that which a sensible man values more highly than any other, so should a nation estimate its character; in other words, should studiously maintain its dignity. The loss of character to an individual entails loss of credit, confidence, and weight in society. The loss of dignity to a nation lowers her in the scale of surrounding Powers, disables her from future exertions, and dissolves the magic of superior influence which former exertions may have perfected. There may be temptations, there may be reasons for giving up wealth, territory, or power, but there can be none of sufficient weight for giving up that pre-eminence of virtuous dignity which such a long adherence to an honourable course of successful integrity has established. Were other considerations totally removed, our very interest would lead us to adopt these principles; for I affirm that the invariable experience of past ages is as necessary to national prosperity as individual character is to individual success. Your Lordship says you have no idea of National Dignity as opposed to National Wisdom. I perfectly agree with you. But I affirm that the one can never be opposed to the other. They are essentially the same, nor can the one exist, much less be maintained, without the other. National Wisdom cannot consist in anything which can degrade the National Character; no can a nation ever arrive at dignity unless it pursues the path chalked out by wisdom. I thank God we have at present much dignity to support—a dignity acquired by a long exercise of National Wisdom. I well know the characters and sentiments of his Majesty's present servants, and am well assured they will not suffer this dignity to be lessened, and I am equally convinced the people of England will not refuse their hearty concurrence to so noble and salutary a purpose, being well convinced that, with the dignity of this country, its commerce, its finances, and its power must stand or fall.

It is to be wished that we had at the present day, when National Dignity is so little regarded in Ministerial quarters, more permanent officials imbued with the same spirit, and equally prepared to urge their views on their Ministerial chiefs. His sturdy independence was not altogether to Lord Grey's taste, and in 1795 he retired from office—after refusing to be promoted downward to the Copenhagen Ministry—on the terms of a baronetcy and pension and the sinecure dignity of Knight-Marshal. It is not a little characteristic of the man that he should have claimed with much insistence, and made good his claim, to bear as Knight-Marshal his bâton in the King's presence, and he soled his retirement by many contributions to poetical literature now buried in oblivion. He died in 1824, and, after making allowance for the natural partiality of a biographer, we may adopt to a considerable extent his biographer's estimate:—

The life and letters of James Blair Burges photograph the man as he lived and moved and had his being. He was a thorough English gentleman, the highest type of civilisation yet attained by mankind. In all the domestic and social relations of life he was faultless. As a son, he was dutiful and affectionate; as a husband, faithful and loving; as a father, equally judicious and indulgent; as a public man, intelligent, industrious, and patriotic; as a friend, kind, hospitable, and forbearing; and if, as a poet, he failed to reach a higher order of excellence, let it not be forgotten that genius is the gift of nature and cannot be won by any amount of labour. He was an honourable, upright man, beloved in life, and sincerely regretted in death. *Multis ille bonis fecit occidit.*

Even those who cannot rate him so highly will admit that the selection from the Blair Burges papers here given is a welcome addition to our historical literature. The book is indeed a very interesting as well as an instructive one, a combination which is not always attained by such books; and it is certainly better worth perusal than many more ambitious contributions to the history of the stirring time during which he lived. As a whole, the editor has done his work well, though he has perhaps assumed in his notes a more complete ignorance of the men and of the time treated in them than is justifiable even in the case of that very ignorant personage the general reader.

NEW NOVELS.

*Hugh Moore** bears on its title page a name unknown to us, and we may not unfairly assume that it is a first novel. If so, it is one of considerable promise, and had it been anonymous, we should have been inclined to attribute it to Mr. Norris or Miss Veley, who have already won their spurs among modern novelists. The hero, who gives his name to the story, is the younger son of an impecunious Irish peer, and at the outset of the story falls a victim to the wiles of the very fascinating daughter of the British Consul at Corfu. It is in that island that the scene opens, and a very clever and amusing character sketch of the typical Levantine Consul is given in Mr. Wilson. His daughter is also admirably drawn, and we cannot help feeling a little more sympathy with her than is shown by her creator. She does, indeed, lay herself out to catch Hugh in a manner which is calculated to minimise that sympathy, but having caught him, she had a stronger claim on his allegiance than he is prepared to admit. In the interview which takes place between her and Hugh at Eastport, she certainly scores, and glad as the hero was to obtain his release, he must have left her with an uncomfortable tail-between-his-legs sort of feeling. But the real heroine of the book is not the Consul's daughter, but the daughter of the Admiral in charge at Eastport, and the tall and stately Dorothea Nevill fills that distinguished

position with far better effect. She would probably, in real life, have been a little too tall and too stately, and she certainly develops a taste for lecturing which augurs ill for Hugh Moore's connubial felicity. But she was a lady, and in this respect at all events had the advantage of the Consul's daughter. The latter was probably far more happy with her Venetian lover than she would have been with the impecunious Irish nobleman that Hugh was destined to become by the death of his elder brother; but we may fairly doubt if in real life so wide-awake a young lady would have thrown over a prospective peer, even an Irish peer, for an Italian artist. The plot is of the slightest, but is worked out with no little skill; and not only are the main personages in the list of *dramatis personæ* admirably sketched, but the minor characters are filled in with a life and a reality which distinguish *Hugh Moore* from the ordinary run of novels. The old Admiral himself, the flag-lieutenant and his sister, and the rich *parvenu* who aspires to Miss Nevill's hand are all lifelike pictures; but the writer's favourite, on whose portraiture she has bestowed most pains, is Captain Warner, whose chivalry and self-devotion deserved a better fate. He is a kind of etherealised Dobbin, and has all the unselfishness without any of the *gaucherie* of his military prototype.

*A Good Hater** begins well, and the first volume excites and keeps up the reader's interest in a way which is not often to be found in modern fiction. We are left in pleasing doubt as to the truth or falsehood of the story of Serjeant Raikes, and the validity of his legacy, on which the novel turns, so that we hesitate long in deciding whether Mrs. Acland is a martyr or a designing female. In the second volume the interest rather falls off, and it falls off still more in the third. The greater portion of the latest volume is taken up with adventures in Ashantiand, and it would seem as if Mr. Boyle had transported some of his personages thither merely to utilise the contents of one of his numerous notebooks. At the same time it is certainly a novel feature in his plot that one of the mysterious personages with whose fate it is concerned should turn up as an African King. Mr. Boyle is, as those who are acquainted with his previous writings are aware, a spirited writer, and invests his narrative with much graphic power, which makes us the more regret the inartistic fashion in which he has tackled on his African experiences to his main plot. It would have been better for him to have reserved them for a new series of *Camp Notes*, and to have contented himself with working out in two volumes, on its legitimate lines, the very clever and ingenious story which he has devised for the gratification of his readers. The personages whom he has introduced are drawn with much skill and distinctness; and Miss Grace Palliser is certainly a novelty in the way of heroines. We cannot quite make out whether the author wishes us to love or to dislike the rebellious, high-spirited, feather-headed girl who has apparently no heart, and sells herself so unblushingly to Mr. Beaver without any apparent consciousness that love is any element in marriage. No little cleverness is shown in this portraiture, as also in that of the rival heroine, who is in so great a contrast to her. But it is probable that, in ordinary life, Grace would have been the pleasanter of the two, though Edie, with no less of personal attractions, is a far higher type of character. Major Saxell himself, the first hero, is not quite so interesting to us as he is to Mr. Boyle, and Hugh Acland, the second hero, is singularly devoid of backbone. But the novel contains a great deal that is interesting and amusing, and the scenes in Ashantiand, though too idyllically lugged in, are in themselves striking and effective.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

No collection of text-books for the study of French would be complete which did not include Voltaire's *Charles XII.*, so we cannot be surprised that so famous, and at the same time so inaccurate, a work should be added to *Macmillan's Foreign School Classics*. M. Fasnacht, the "judicious editor" of that series, has therefore, done well in adding yet another to the numerous annotated editions of Voltaire's famous work which are already in circulation. His edition is favourably distinguished from its predecessors by the greater care which he has taken, not merely to explain grammatical and idiomatic difficulties, but also to correct historical inaccuracies, thus fitting the text for perusal not merely as a lesson-book in French, but also as a lesson-book in history. The other addition to Messrs. Macmillan's useful series which is now before us possesses more attraction in the way of novelty, and it is certainly well that some of the more recent masterpieces of French literature should find their place in the series side by side with such old and popular friends as *Charles XII.* *Mademoiselle de la Seiglière*, which has been selected by the editor as a representative specimen of one of the most charming comedies of modern French authors, was arranged for the stage by the author, Jules Sandeau, with the collaboration of Régner. Sandeau himself has the distinction of being the first novelist who ever attained to a *fautouil* among the immortal Forty, and *Mademoiselle de la Seiglière*—which has been reprinted with the consent of M. Calaman Levy, the proprietor of the French copyright—is an admirable specimen of his powers. It is a rare specimen of the skilful adaptation of a successful novel for dramatic representation, and the comedy has won for itself an established place in the *répertoire* of the

Théâtre Français. It is not the least among the boons which M. Fasnacht, the accomplished editor of *Macmillan's Foreign School Classics*, has conferred upon English students, that he has introduced into this series so wide a diversity of subject, and that he has found a place in it not only for long-established classics like Voltaire's *Charles XII.*, but also for more recent classics like *Mademoiselle de la Seiglière*.

Sir John Burgoyne's little book with the very long title of *A Short History of the Naval and Military Operations in Egypt from 1798 to 1802* (Sampson Low and Co.), has been called forth by recent events, which have once again directed our attention to Egypt as the scene of English military warfare. We are afraid that the campaign of 1885 will not add to the fame which our soldiers won during the campaign of which the story has been here told by Sir John Burgoyne, for though the individual acts of heroism displayed during that campaign have, we are glad to think, shown no falling off in pluck among our soldiers, the officers of higher rank do not show to so much advantage. British soldiers and sailors added a brilliant page to the history of war during the Egyptian campaign of which Sir John Burgoyne writes, and it is well that the memory of so bright an episode in our military history should not be lost. But there is so much of the Dryad element in the little volume before us that we fear that the author will not find a very ready acceptance for his narrative either among his brother soldiers or among the public at large. It is based on official records, and has all the dreariness as well as the accuracy of those records, though it may claim attention as a faithful, if somewhat dull, compilation from contemporary authority. It certainly was unnecessary for Sir John to have devoted ten pages or more to Bonaparte's attempt to enter into personal communication with George III., and to the admirable, but thoroughly well-known, reply of the British Ministry to his unofficial communication. The story which the author has to tell is, we believe, already told quite as effectively in many histories of the period, and he carefully abstains from throwing any additional light upon it or adding any of those distinctive features which lend an interest to such narratives that cannot be inspired by a mere recapitulation of official details. But the present position of affairs in the Soudan makes us regard with curiosity his statement that "while Bonaparte was in Syria an emissary from Africa appeared in Egypt, calling himself El Mahdi announced in the Koran, and 'he was one of the causes of the spirit shown 'throughout the country in resisting the French.'" Another episode which arrests attention is the story of the 28th Foot at the Battle of Alexandria, who won for their regiment the distinction of wearing their number both in front and rear of their headpieces by the plucky manner in which their rear rank turned round and poured volley upon volley into the assailants who thought to take them by surprise. Many readers will share Sir John Burgoyne's regret that recent changes which have removed all pride that regiments used to take in their hard-earned distinctions have abolished this with many other similar distinctions.

Mr. Edmund Gosse is the greatest authority of the day on the subject of Gray's poems, and his edition published by Messrs. Macmillan in 1884, based on the author's own revision, has established itself in popular favour as the standard edition of one of the most graceful of English poets. It is, therefore, well that Mr. Gosse should have been chosen by the delegates of the Clarendon Press to compile the little volume of *Gray's Selected Poems* just issued by them, and he has prefixed to the selection a memoir of the poet, based on his life of Gray contributed to Mr. Morley's admirable series of *English Men of Letters*. The selections in the volume before us are made with great taste and judgment, and, as might have been expected, present the poet at his best. They contain all the familiar pieces which have made Gray's name a household word among students of poetry, and in addition to those more familiar pieces Mr. Gosse has given us the paraphrases from Propertius and Dante, which were first published in his edition of 1884, to which we have already referred. The former of these was printed from the poet's MS. preserved in the library of Pembroke College, and the latter from a MS. in the handwriting of Mitford, now in the possession of Lord Houghton. These possess an exceptional interest, even apart from their great poetic merits, which amply justifies their being included in a volume of selections.

Messrs. Cassell have, in the present month, brought to a conclusion two of their serials. One of these is *Picturesque America*, which, though not equalling in interest or attraction *Picturesque Europe*, is by no means deficient in interest and attraction. It is probable that many readers who have by its means first made acquaintance with the beauties of the great American continent will have been surprised to find how many and how various those beauties are; and they have certainly lost none of their charm at the hands of the skilful artists employed by Messrs. Cassell, whose drawings have been throughout most admirably engraved. The result is a very striking book, full of pictorial beauty, and if we are still prejudiced enough to prefer *Picturesque Europe* to *Picturesque America* it is mainly on account of the numerous illustrations of ancient buildings which, grey with years, have become religion, that we find in the one, but which are of necessity conspicuous by their absence in the other. We note that Messrs. Cassell, having completed this magnificent work, are prepared to embark upon another—*Picturesque Canada*—which will offer at least as much opportunity to

the artist. The other of their works which comes to an end with the present month is *The Royal Shakespeare*, which but for the drawback of double columns—an almost unpardonable offence in our eyes—might take high rank among the numerous editions of the works of our immortal bard. It includes, in addition to the plays which form the authorised canon, *The Two Noble Kinsmen* and *Edward III.*, which act as a kind of Apocrypha to the Shakespearean canon. The steel engravings with which the present edition is illustrated are of somewhat unequal merit; some of them, we think, we have seen before, others we do not want to see again, but a few of them which are less familiar and more artistic are a real addition to its merits. At the same time we must own to a certain sense of disappointment in *The Royal Shakespeare* as far as the illustrations are concerned. They are, taken as a whole, more ambitious than satisfactory. But in their completed form the bound volumes are certainly very handsome and effective. The text is that patronised by Mr. Furnivall, who, as we all know, has views of his own, and the influence of the "New Shakespeare Society" is to be traced throughout. So numerous are the editions of the great English poet which are now in circulation, that it may perhaps be matter of doubt whether there is room for yet another edition of so elaborate a character as that here presented, though the inclusion of *The Two Noble Kinsmen* and of *Edward III.* is a novel feature. But we are not prepared to accept Mr. Furnivall as an infallible authority on the text. It is probable that no little disappointment will be felt by the Shakespearean enthusiast, attracted by the outside appearance of *The Royal Shakespeare*, when he finds the general level of the illustrations not up to his expectations, and the letterpress, though clear and distinct itself, broken into those abominable double columns which are so great an eyesore to all book-lovers who care more for outward appearance than for literary merit. Even those who are more influenced by literary merit than outward appearance will probably regret the adoption of Mr. Furnivall's text.

Mrs. Hall has translated from the German of Herr Nosselt his *Mythology, Greek and Roman*, and the book, which is published by Messrs. Kirby and Endean, is dedicated, by permission, to the daughters of Prince and Princess Christian, photographs of whom form a somewhat incongruous frontispiece to it. We cannot say much in favour of the book, and though the translator assures us that the original work is most popular in Germany, and has "obtained a place on the 'book-shelf of every cultivated home,'" we venture to question the correctness of her statement. It is most decidedly behind the age, and is better suited to a time when Lemprière was a standard authority than to our present more advanced knowledge. We should doubt if the researches of modern students of mythology had ever reached Herr Nosselt, and his undoubted identification of the Greek and Latin deities is in itself sufficient to put readers on their guard. If we could forget all recent investigations and theories, and could transplant ourselves into the frame of mind of the classical students of the last century, we might find Herr Nosselt's handbook very useful; but it is rather aggravating in the present day to be called upon to admire so antediluvian a production. Judged by the antique standard, which can alone be adopted, the book is not badly done, and the selections of passages from English versions of classical authors are made with taste and judgment, though we should not ourselves have selected Pope as an exponent of Homer for students. But in addition to the drawback of the book's being so completely out of date, we must mention the further drawback that there is no attempt at an index, which is in itself an unpardonable omission in any work of reference.

It would be an act of injustice to Mr. George Eyre to allow him to imagine that his production, *The Sage of Thebes* (Elliot Stock), is poetry. It is nothing of the sort. It is at once tedious and prosaic, and will only be acceptable to very near and dear friends, given rather to flattery than to plain speaking. It is, however, exceedingly well printed.

The Illustrated Science Monthly is an excellent number, full of variety. We have been especially interested with Dr. Callaway's article on "The Great Earth-Thrust in the Highlands," by which some of the oldest rocks have been pushed up in masses over quite recent strata. The phenomenon is to be observed in the North-western Highlands.

Correspondence.

RITUALISTIC DEVELOPMENTS.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—Like the E.C.U., and the papers which uphold its policy, the Guild of St. Alban is now being taken in hand by the Radical Ritualists and Church and Stage Guildsmen; specially by Mr. Verinder and the Guild of St. Matthew. Mr. William Crickmay, finding that one of the rules of the Guild of St. Alban enjoins opposition to "Latitudinarianism, Rationalism, and Infidelity," is about to get it abolished. Of this policy he declares—

"We have seen that the clause may be used against brethren who are actively engaged in direct opposition to infidelity—by Guildsmen who, from want of acquaintance with the questions involved, or from other reasons, are unable to understand their brethren's line."

In other words, the Atheists and Radicals are to teach Churchmen, and Churchmen are to secure

* *Hugh Moore*. By Evelyn Stodd. In Two Vols.—London: Wm. Blackwood and Sons, 1885.

* *A Good Hater*. By Frederick Boyle. In Three Vols.—London: Richard Bentley and Sons, 1885.

free liberty and scope for Atheism as a new "school of thought" on one most comprehensive commission. What is to be the end of it all?

Yours truly,

A SORROWING OBSERVER.

London, April 21.

THE E.C.U.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—In my letter last week "disabled Protestantism" was a misprint for "chasubled Protestantism"—a phrase borrowed from Mr. Owen's paper on his Institutes of Canon Law. Just as "cucullus non facit monachum," so "casula non facit Catholicum." Very many of our "advanced" friends are soaked with the Protestant spirit. Certainly if one were looking for the genius of Catholicism in England—its reverent methods, its supernatural temper, its exaltation of obedience and humility as the virtues of the Gospel—one would hardly turn to that pushing school of zealous but essentially modern-minded men who have persuaded themselves, often in entire sincerity, that democratic humanitarianism coated with a thin veneer of methodistic-sacramentalist teaching is really High Churchmanship. What possible community is there between those men and the Anselms, and Lauds, and Kens, and Herberts of our Church? In what sense are they the successors of Keble and Isaac Williams? No. Too often (varying Milton's saying) new priest is but old presbyterian writ small. The modern spirit is not any the less Protestant because it happens to wear a coloured stole. Our "Liberal High Churchmen" are Protestants who have missed their way.

Your most obedient servant,

A PUSEYITE.

THE DESERT OF SAHARA.

Mr. A. H. Keane has some remarks in *Nature* on the results of a very successful expedition to North-West Africa, undertaken in the years 1879-80, on behalf of the German African Society, by Dr. Lenz, who visited the little-known section of the Sahara lying between Marokko and the Niger. Timbuktu, the southern terminus of the caravan routes across this part of the desert, thus became the main goal of the expedition. Dr. Lenz performed his journey mainly by a new route from the north, by Marokko and Timbuktu, and then continued his way westwards through the Fulah and Negro States of Moassina and Bambara down the Senegal river to the Atlantic coast at St. Louis, the capital of the French possessions in Senegambia. Hence the most important result of the journey has been to show that Timbuktu, hitherto regarded as practically inaccessible to Europeans, may be reached both through Marokko from the north and through the Senegal basin from the west.

From the observations made at various points in recent times it has become more and more evident that the Sahara can no longer be regarded as having been a marine basin, at least since the early Tertiary epoch. Dr. Lenz plainly shows that the whole of the western section is not a depression, as has been assumed, but an irregular plateau standing in the north at a mean elevation of from 800 to 1,000 feet, and even at Taudeni, its lowest level, still maintaining an altitude of 400 or 500 feet above the Atlantic. The surface is varied with stony and sandy tracts which have nothing in common with marine sedimentary deposits, but have been produced by the weathering of sandstone, quartz, and carboniferous limestones, which appear to be the prevailing formations. It is thus evident that this part of the desert has been dry land for vast ages, and the same conclusion must be inferred from the numerous dried-up watercourses, whose deep channels are distinctly the effect of erosion. These wadies, many of which seem to have been flooded within the last few thousand years, radiate from the central highlands north and north-east to the Mediterranean, east to the Nile, south to the Tsad and Niger, west to the Atlantic. Hence down to comparatively recent times the Sahara was a well-watered and wooded region thickly inhabited by agricultural and pastoral communities, themselves the descendants or successors of still more primitive peoples, the contemporaries of palæolithic and neolithic man in other parts of the globe. In the Taudeni district, about 20deg. N., under the meridian of Timbuktu, Dr. Lenz discovered some implements of hard greenstone well worked and polished, and similar objects have also been found as far west as the Kufara oasis south of Tripolitana. The Asiatic camel is here a comparatively recent intruder, preceded by the Garamantian war-horse and by the elephant, trained also to war by the native Numidians and Phœnician Carthaginians. The crocodile even still survives in many of the pools and lakelets here and there marking the course of mighty streams, which formerly sent their perennial floods down to the surrounding marine basins.

Apart from possible cosmic influences, Dr. Lenz attributes the great change that has taken place within the historic period largely to the reckless destruction of the woodlands which at one time covered vast tracts in this now arid and treeless region. With the vegetation disappeared the moisture; all the large fauna became extinct, and the settled populations were succeeded by nomad tribes of Berber (Hamitic) stock, joined later on by Semites from the Arabian peninsula.

During the journey from Timbuktu to the Senegal Dr. Lenz saw a good deal of the Fulahs, who are now everywhere interspersed among the Negro populations from Wadai and Darfur to Senegambia, and to whom apparently belongs the future of Central and Western Soudan between the Niger and Wadai. The origin of this mysterious race is a subject of much difference of opinion. The type is distinctly non-Negro, differing from it in almost every racial characteristic—cranial formation, complexion, texture of the hair, figure, proportion of members, mental qualities. Dr. Lenz, who had numerous opportunities of studying full-blood specimens, was amazed at their striking resemblance to Europeans, and describes them as of light complexion, with slightly arched noses, straight forehead, fiery glance, long black hair, shapely limbs, tall slim figures, great intelligence. At the same time, since their diffusion among the Soudanese populations the Fulahs have become much modified by crossings with the Negroes and Arabs. "No territory or state is now found exclusively inhabited by pure Fulahs, who are everywhere intermingled with Negro and Arab communities."

THE INCEST BILL.

The Bishop of Oxford has replied in the *Times* to a letter which lately appeared in that paper in which the action of the Bishop of Sydney was described as ill-timed and impolitic when efforts are being made to draw closer the ties between the colonies and the mother-country. He says:—"The Bishop's office is that he has endeavoured to maintain in his diocese the observance of the marriage law of the mother-country, as it has been for more than a thousand years. I should have thought that the persons who promote the overthrow of that law in the colonies were the real foes of old associations and ancestral ties, not those who, like the Bishop of Sydney, seek to maintain them. The Bishop, however, is very well able to take care of himself. I ask your leave to point out to Mr. Broadhurst, and to those who act with him, that they cannot expect to get a hearing from the other side until they answer a simple question which touches the root of the whole matter. Do they regard relationship by affinity as a bar to marriage between the persons so related? If it is a bar, then widowers cannot marry their deceased wives' sisters; if it is not a bar, then widowers may marry their wives' nieces and their wives' kinswomen in general. If it be answered that relationship by affinity is a bar in one case and not in another, we can only say that such words have no meaning. With a statement which is mere nonsense we cannot deal. If it be answered that relationship by affinity is not a bar in any case, but that existing prohibitions must be removed one by one, we say that a policy which would lead to an intermittent agitation about each prohibited degree, lasting over many years, and meanwhile unsettling the whole law of marriage in the public estimation, would be a national calamity. And we further say that it would be gross and flagrant wrong to prohibit for a single hour any marriage for which no ground of prohibition could be alleged. But this is just what Mr. Broadhurst and his allies propose to do. Their Bill asserts the right of a man to marry his wife's near kindred, and deliberately refuses to give him the enjoyment of that right in any case but the one in which they happen to have a particular interest. We say that such legislation would be altogether irrational, arbitrary, and dishonest, and we persistently oppose it. So long as its supporters refuse to explain themselves we are apt to conclude that in their hearts they think so too."

The Bishop of Barbados writes giving an emphatic denial to the statement of the *Daily News* that he and his clergy had withdrawn their opposition to the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill. He adds that the Synod of the Windward Islands also condemned the Bill, one layman only dissenting.

DR. LIDDON ON THE FAMILY.

Preaching at St. Paul's, on Sunday afternoon, from Psalm ci. 3, Dr. Liddon said that the Jews, the Christian Church, and modern critics alike agreed that this was a Psalm of David, written probably while the sacred ark which represented in some respects what the Sacraments did to us was in the house of Obadedom ere it was brought to Jerusalem, in which the king had just taken up his residence at a crisis of his life when, after many anxieties, he settled down with great responsibilities. The king conceived that the ark would bring a blessing on the Royal house. The household of David was that of a polygamist, from which degrading form of family life our Lord's proclamation of the true principles of married life delivered the world. It was noticeable that the qualifications for continuing in David's household were (a) moral and (b) mainly negative. It was not cleverness, strength, or bravery that would entitle a man to remain in the palace, but goodness and faithfulness. He needed, indeed, courage and talent, but his highest favours were reserved for goodness. He preferred goodness to brilliancy, character to culture, which men in our day would consider tame and stupid, the maxim of the world being goodness if you can, but cleverness in any case. This was practically to prefer the devil—who, clever as he was, had been enriching his mind by continuous observation and experience for centuries—to God. Having observed that we should be sure we should do as much before we criticised David, and said that his negative standard of excluding the proud, liars, and backbiters unless they reformed was a low one, he went on to say that the Christian family was different from and more beautiful than the Royal household at Jerusalem. From the home at Nazareth family life took a new beginning. The importance of a family life, warm in its affections and pure in its atmosphere, to the Church and country could not be exaggerated, and a French writer spoke of the admiration of his countrymen in their more judicial moments for the home life of our middle classes of England and of the country poor. From the great Republic so near akin to us across the Atlantic came the same testimony. That life was now, however, threatened, not only by the standing enemies of its well-being—the preference of club society to that of wife and children, the husband's personal extravagance, inconsiderateness, or worse; for a new ideal of life was proposed to themselves by a small section of women anxious to imitate the life of men. They adopted male studies and phases of such studies, male amusements, male occupations, male ambitions, male modes of thought, talking, and writing. In place of the unostentatious charities of former days, such women affected the platform or lecture-room with the avowed object of their being training places for the benches of the Senate. They should remember that water could never rise above its level, and while endeavouring to be pale caricatures of the men they rivalled, they forfeited the best characteristics of their sex—the feminine graces which men loved in their wives and sisters. Women should be cultivated, energetic, active, beneficent, and influential indeed for good, but in women's, not men's, way; and a true instinct would tell them the line they might not pass. The preacher then referred to the attempts made to ignore the firm foundation and indissolubility of married life by extending the wider area in which warm affection might be indulged without any risk of the intrusion of sexual passion. By the mutual adoption of each other's relations

by man and wife, the principle called by our Lord "one flesh" was carried out; but this had been impaired by modern legislation. What Popes dispensed with in rare cases, and the House of Lords at the Reformation thought they might continue to do on equally rare occasions, had been in these democratic days extended largely by the Divorce Court, which granted divorces on frivolous grounds; and consequently co-operation in the sacred work of educating the children was checked by the dreadful sense of insecurity against the breaking up of social life. Time failed him to show, as might be done, how the unhappy Bill for permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister traversed the moral law of God. He would content himself with noting its evil effects on the moral health of families. It was less dangerous in what it specifically enacted than in the principle it repudiated, for some one would soon invoke the inexorable logical consequences of the fatal concession. If it became law, men and women who now treated each other as objects of affection would find their love liable to be associated with passion. Because in some uneducated or unbelieving families, or some where Christ was not recognised, such marriages had occurred, was it right to break down the sacred fences which protected family life elsewhere? The Bill would produce distance, anxiety, suspicion, in many a social circle; and he prayed that God might save our legislators from making so disastrous a mistake as that suggested. He specially urged the duty of family prayer, as common sense, culture, and good manners could not, as some imagined, replace religion.

THE NEW VERSION OF THE BIBLE.

The Dean of Chichester writes as follows to a contemporary on the Revised Version of the Bible:—

"The proposal to resuscitate the already defunct instalment of 1881 revives a discussion of which I thought the public had already heard enough, and was growing weary."

"The demerit of the Revised New Testament is too complicated as well as too serious a problem to be disposed of in a letter, whether short or long. The questions chiefly involved may be said to be three in number. (1) *Its English*—whether bald and rugged, harsh and unlovely, or not—of which any educated Englishman is able to form a valid opinion. Next, (2) *Its merits as a Translation*—whether intolerably tasteless and pedantic, inaccurate, and often simply wrong, or not—of which every one who has studied the Greek language in addition to his own, is a competent judge. But the gravest and by far the most important question is behind—viz., (3) *Its underlying Greek Text*—whether now, for the first time, shamefully corrupted and depraved throughout, or the contrary. And this, let me be permitted to say, is a subject on which no one is qualified to form an independent opinion unless he has devoted to the Textual Criticism of the New Testament a very considerable portion of his time and attention. I speak of concentrated and laborious study, prosecuted through many years of life."

"In a recent volume Dr. Hort's *New Textual Theory* has been elaborately examined, and proved to be visionary—a mere effort of the imagination—throughout upwards of 130 printed pages."

"Scarcely less favourable to Dr. Westcott and Hort is the result of Dr. Scrivener's examination of their work in a volume which is (or should be) in the hands of everybody who cares for these inquiries. He declares that 'their system is hopelessly self-condemned' (p. 604). 'There is little hope' (he says) 'for the stability of their imposing structure, if its foundations have been laid on the sandy ground of ingenious conjecture. And, since barely the smallest vestige of historical evidence has ever been alleged in support of the views of these accomplished editors, their teaching must be either received as intuitively true, or dismissed from our consideration as precarious and even visionary.' (p. 531). 'Dr. Hort's system is entirely destitute of historical foundation' (p. 537). Dr. Scrivener is 'compelled to repeat as emphatically as ever his strong conviction that the hypothesis to whose proof Dr. Hort has devoted so many laborious years, is destitute not only of historical foundation, but of all probability, resulting from the internal goodness of the Text which its adoption would force upon us' (p. 542)."

"Now, a deliberate sentence like this, proceeding from the best living Textual Critic, who was also himself a member of the Revisionist body, must be held effectually to block the way. Until it has been publicly combated and successfully disposed of, no sincere lover of sacred Truth may propose to go forward with the (so-called) 'Revised' New Testament. To all appearance, 'the ground has been cut from under the Committee of Revisers on the whole of this subject.' But I am content that for the present the question should be regarded as *sub judice*. With Dr. Hort's *New Textual Theory* the Revised Version of the New Testament stands or falls; and a full and sufficient answer has been already twice given to Dr. Hort. If a man publishes a new system of Astrology based on the postulate that the sun revolves round the moon, you have effectually demolished his system if you have succeeded in proving that the sun doesn't."

"The conclusion of the whole matter is, that the Revised New Testament being already in the hands of everybody, and having been long since by the prevailing sense of the community pronounced a calamitous failure, we deprecate the threatened attempt to force us to become purchasers of another large edition of it. We desire, in short, that the Revised Old Testament may be judged on its own merits, unencumbered by a copy of the New; and of course, that it may be sold at a proportionally cheaper rate, in consequence."

Conoboration.

PROVINCE OF YORK.

Both Houses of the Northern Convocation met on Tuesday, when there was a passage of arms between the President and Prolocutor before the Lower House retired from Archbishop Zouch's Chapel. The President complained of the reissue of former rules of the Lower House of Sessions to its members since

the prorogation, and of the proposal to sit in the Minister library without his knowledge, which he doubted was within the terms of the Royal writ. He urged the Lower House to rise to the height of its graver duties in days when the movement towards democracy was so marked; when the education of the people was in great part secular; and the variety of religious belief brought into discussion every great article of the creed, even the existence of a God. In days of great distress among the commercial and agricultural classes, alike borne with great dignity, and with clouds gathering from every quarter, questions of procedure and criticisms of one another's conduct looked poor and dwarfish. The Prolocutor said that he took on himself the responsibility of the acts complained of, which were not intended as disrespectful to his Grace, and he now asked his permission for the Lower House to sit in the Minister library, within the Cathedral precincts, and as near the Upper House as the place of sitting of the Lower House in the Southern Province was the Upper House there. He regretted that the President had listened to rumour, instead of communicating with him. The President said that he was the last person to listen to tittle-tattle, accepted the explanation, admitted that he had made mistakes, and that what he had now done was in the interests of peace.

In the Upper House the Bishop of Manchester moved a resolution for considering and defining what should be the relations between the Bishops and any branch of the Church Army that might be established. The Bishop of Manchester contended that some such movement was necessary, inasmuch as the existing agencies of the Church did not effectually reach the great mass of the people.

The proposal met with general approval, and, on the suggestion of the Archbishop, a committee of the whole House was formed to consider the question.

The Bishop of Ripon moved a resolution with the object of establishing clerical pension funds, which, after discussion, was adopted.

The Archbishop next moved a resolution affirming the desirability of securing uniformity of practice with reference to the consecration of burial grounds, and detailed a scheme of his own whereby the cost of consecration might be reduced from £15 to £3.

In the Lower House the Rev. Canon Ware presented a petition from the clergy of the diocese of Carlisle expressing regret at the legal proceedings instituted against the incumbent of St. Margaret's, Liverpool.

A long debate afterwards took place on lay ministrations in churches, and ultimately the following motion was carried:—

"That in the opinion of this House the needs of the time demand that every facility and encouragement should be given to the spiritual ministrations of lay members of the Church, subject only to such restriction as the laws of the Church and Realm impose."

On the motion of Canon WARR, seconded by the Archdeacon of MACCLESFIELD, a committee was appointed to consider the question of the disposal of ecclesiastical sites and buildings; and on the motion of Canon RANDOLPH, seconded by Canon CHAMPNEY, a motion was adopted in favour of the modification of the Ecclesiastical Dilapidation Act.

WEDNESDAY.

In the Upper House the discussion on the consecration of burial grounds, adjourned from the previous day, was continued, and a committee appointed.

The Bishop of NEWCASTLE drew attention to a declaration of the Upper House of the Province of Canterbury on the subject of reservation of the consecrated elements of the Holy Communion, and moved that the House should concur in the same. The resolution was agreed to.

The Church Army was discussed in committee, and it was agreed that it was desirable to encourage the movement, but that the sanction of the Bishop should be obtained before the establishment of a branch in any parish, that the Army should not work in any parish without the invitation or sanction of the incumbent, and that the Bishop should have the power to regulate the services.

In the Lower House (as in the Upper House) petitions against the prosecution of Mr. Bell Cox were presented from every diocese. The Dean of Ripon presented a gravamen signed by himself, the Dean of Chester, and other members, praying that the Dean of Durham's motion as to Mr. Bell Cox, being on a matter *sub judice*, should not be discussed, and demanded that the Prolocutor should at once take it to the Upper House, which he did. The President sent down a message, saying that, in his judgment, it would be highly improper for the Synod to consider a pending case, and requested the Lower House to postpone a discussion of the general principle till after the case was decided. The Prolocutor said that it was his duty at once to accede to the request, but he trusted that he should not be considered as agreeing with the President's directions; on the contrary, he most deeply deplored that such a step should have been taken. He doubted if any similar proceeding had taken place in the Convocation, and if often repeated such an act would end in the destruction of the Convocation of York. A minority of that House, not daring to face a discussion and division, availed themselves of the power of having their gravamen at once taken up to the President, whose opinion he supposed they knew perfectly well beforehand. Anything more destructive of the liberties of Convocation could not be conceived, and he feared that it might lead to inconvenient consequences hereafter. The Deans of Durham and Manchester concurred with the Prolocutor.

The subject of the "Church Ministry of Women" was then discussed. The Dean of York presented a report of the conference on the subject. It recommended the appointment of deaconesses by the imposition of hands, that no candidate for the office be under 30 years of age, and should not undertake the work of the parish unless called by the incumbent, that homes shall be provided for deaconesses, and that each deaconess should retain control over her own property. It was also recommended that sisterhoods be established in connection with the Church of England. After considerable discussion the report was agreed to.

THURSDAY.

Business was resumed in both Houses. The Archbishop of YORK presided in the Upper House, where the Bishop of MANCHESTER referred to a notice of

motion given in the Lower House on the previous day expressing regret at the prosecution of the Rev. James Bell Cox, of St. Margaret's, Liverpool, for ritualistic practices, as being inconsistent with the policy of peace advocated by the late Archbishop of Canterbury and the late Bishop of London. Bishop Fraser asked his Grace whether he could give them any information as to this alleged policy of peace, whether his Grace had heard of or been party in any way to this supposed truce, and whether he could not set the Bishops more at ease than they were with respect to their duties. The PRESIDENT gave an emphatic and absolute denial to the statement that such a policy of peace as was said to have been inaugurated by the late Archbishop of Canterbury and the late Bishop of London existed. From his relations with the former Prelate, he was perfectly certain that if in his last moments he had in any way deserted the position he had previously maintained that change of policy would certainly have been communicated to him.

The Lower House adopted the report of the Committee on the paternal authority of the Bishops. Convocation was then prorogued to the 18th of June.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. P. P. Broadmead, to Rectory of Bradford. Patron, Mr. T. P. Broadmead.
 Rev. H. E. Butler, Curate of Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, to Rectory of Water-Millock, Cumberland. Patron, the Rector of Greystoke.
 Rev. B. W. Chace, Curate of Dartford, to Incumbency of St. John's, Bexley.
 Rev. J. Clarke, to Vicarage of Eling, Southampton. Patron, Mr. William Phillips.
 Rev. G. K. Cleather, Vicar of Chilton, to be Rural Dean of Potterne, Second Portion.
 Rev. Sir F. L. Currie, Bart., to Rectory of Exton. Patron, the Bishop of Winchester.
 Rev. J. P. Dyer, Curate of St. Jude's, Hunslet-road, Leeds, to be Government Chaplain on the Bengal Ecclesiastical Establishment (Rangoon).
 Rev. W. J. Fertel, to Vicarage of Holton-le-Clay. Patron, the Queen.
 Rev. W. A. Firth, to Vicarage of St. Luke's, Park-road West, Brighton.
 Rev. S. E. Flint, to Rectory of Ladock. Patron, Canon Wice.
 Rev. E. K. Green, Curate of Marton, Cheshire, to Rectory of St. Chad's, Cloughton, near Caton, Lancaster. Patron, Mr. Thomas F. Fenwick, of Burrow Hall, Kirby Lonsdale.
 Rev. H. E. Hall, to Chaplaincy of All Saints' Convalescent Hospital, Eastbourne.
 Rev. J. Jones, to Rectory of Arborfield, Berks. Patrons, Sir William Richmond Brown, Bart., of Astrop, King's Sutton, Northampton, and Mr. Alexander Hargreaves Brown, M.P., of 12, Grosvenor-gardens, London.
 Rev. J. J. R. L. Knipe, Rector of Hales St. George, to be Chaplain to the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire.
 Rev. T. N. Rigby, to be Curate-in-Charge of St. Mary's, Hollingworth.
 Rev. G. A. Shaw, to Rectory of Litchborough, Northants.
 Rev. T. D. T. Speck, to Vicarage of Lang-it-with-Cotnam.
 Rev. F. G. Stapleton, Senior Curate of St. Mary's, Scarborough, to Vicarage of Seamer-with-Cayton, York. Patron, the Archbishop of York.
 Rev. B. A. K. Sylvester, Curate of Bowness, Windermere, to Vicarage of Roby. Patron, the Earl of Derby.
 Rev. W. T. Travis, Private Chaplain to the Earl of Scarborough, Rector of Ripley, Yorkshire. Patron, Sir Henry Ingilby, Bart.
 Rev. E. L. Trefry, Curate of Blankney, to Rectory and Vicarage of Awarby-with-Swarby. Patron, Sir T. Whiteche.
 Rev. C. T. Ward, to Vicarage of Chudleigh. Patron, Mr. Richard U. Martyn, of Clynton, St. Austell.
 Rev. J. A. Winstanley, late Curate of Farnworth, to be Minor Canon of Manchester Cathedral.
 Rev. J. T. Woodcock, to Vicarage of Battisford, Suffolk. Patrons, Robert Woodcock, Edmund Woodcock, and James Thomas Woodcock.
 Rev. V. G. Yonge, Rector of Whitmore, to Rectory of Brattley. Patron, Mr. S. W. Wright.
 Rev. C. B. Young, Vicar of Cobham, to be Chaplain to the High Sheriff of Surrey.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS.

Revs. Henry Edgeworth Bicknell Arnold, M.A., to Watford; Frederick Ernest Coggin, B.A., to Digswell; Isaac Robinson Timperley, B.A., to Staunsted Mountfitchet.

OBITUARY.

April 12, at Leintwardine Vicarage, the Rev. Edward Jonathan Green, aged 72.
 April 15, at Brighton, the Rev. Edmund Green, Vicar of Great Shelford, aged 58.
 April 16, at the Rectory, Bentley, the Rev. Charles Jackson, aged 73.
 April 16, the Rev. Alured James Clarke, M.A., Rector of Elvington, York, aged 54.
 April 17, at the Rectory, Standish, the Rev. Wm. Harper Brundreth, Rector of Standish, Honorary Canon of Manchester, and Rural Dean, in his 73rd year.
 April 18, at Salisbury, the Rev. C. L. Bode, Curate of St. Edmund's, Salisbury, aged 32.
 April 18, at the Deanery, Lincoln, the Very Rev. Joseph Williams Blakesley, D.D., Dean of Lincoln, aged 77.
 April 18, at 83, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park, the Rev. Walter Scott Dumergue, Vicar of Fareham, aged 65.
 April 18, at 11, Alexandra-road, The Greenway, Oxbridge, the Rev. Tobias Edward Gardner, B.A. Oxon, Chaplain of Oxbridge Union, in his 51st year.
 April 19, at Carlton-terrace, Heligman, Norwich, the Rev. Frederick Field, M.A., LL.D., in his 84th year.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE

The *Guardian* understands that it has been decided that the presentation of the Primate's cross shall take place at Lambeth in the Library on Wednesday next, at 6 p.m. This will not interfere with the sitting of Convocation, and will give more space for the large number of subscribers who are expected to be present.

This week is the twelfth anniversary of the Mission of St. Alphege, Southwark, and the third dedication festival of its beautiful church. On Sunday (St. Alphege's Day) there were three celebrations, the last being choral. The number of communicants was very large and their devotion striking. Tuesday was observed as commemoration day. There were celebrations of Holy Communion at 6.30 and 7.30, and there was a high celebration at 11.30, the preacher being Canon Butler, of Worcester. At 1.30 a luncheon was held in the Mission-hall, Friar-street.

The confirmation of the elections of Canon King and Dr. Bickersteth, as Bishops of Lincoln and Exeter, by the respective Chapters of those sees, took place on Thursday morning at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside. The Litany having been said by the rector, the Vicar-General of the Province (Dr. Deane, Q.C.), with Mr. Hassard, the Principal Registrar, held a court, the latter reading the letters patent. The usual formalities were observed, and the challenges to objectors made by Sir John Hannan, the new Appointor-General of the Province, from which office Mr. Felix Knyvett has just retired after many years' service. There were a number of friends of the new prelates present. Sir Walter Phillimore, Q.C., attended the Bishop of Lincoln as advocate, and Mr. G. H. Brooks as proctor. Dr. Tristram, Q.C.,

attended the Bishop of Exeter as advocate, and Mr. Cyrus Waddilove as proctor. The Rev. Barclay Randolph and the Rev. F. K. Aglionby were the chaplains in attendance. Both Bishops will be consecrated in St. Paul's this (Saturday) morning at eleven o'clock, the Bishops of London, Oxford, Ely, Rochester, and Newcastle assisting the Primate, and the offertory will be devoted to the Southwell Bishopric Fund.

The Bishop of London, in intimating the postponement of the Diocesan Conference for this year, remarks:—"It will not be possible for me to hold the Diocesan Conference this year; nor, if it were possible, should I think it desirable that I should preside over its meeting until I have made myself better acquainted with the diocese, its needs and character, than I am at present."

Dr. Blakesley, the Dean of Lincoln, died at his residence in Lincoln on Saturday. He was appointed to the Deanery of Lincoln by Mr. Gladstone in 1872. The Dean had been ill for some time past. The Very Rev. Joseph William Blakesley was the son of a London merchant, and was born in 1808. He was educated at St. Paul's School and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. (twenty-first Wrangler and senior Chancellor's medalist) in 1831. He was afterwards elected Fellow and Tutor of his college, and was twice appointed Select Preacher to the university. In 1845 he was appointed by his college to the vicarage of Ware; was appointed a classical examiner in the University of London in 1861, and Canon of Canterbury in 1863. He was Proctor for the Chapter of Canterbury in the Lower House of Convocation from 1864 to 1872, when he was appointed Dean of Lincoln. Dr. Blakesley was a member of the Committee for the Revision of the New Testament; was the author of a *Life of Aristotle* and other well-known works; and was understood to be "The Hertfordshire Incumbent" who was at one time a frequent contributor to the *Times*. The remains of the late Dean were on Thursday interred in the cemetery of the parish of St. Mary Magdalene, in which the Deanery is situated. The first part of the Burial Office was said in the Cathedral, where the body, which was in an oak coffin, covered with wreaths sent by friends, was received by Sub-Dean Clements, Precentor Venables, the Archdeacon of Lincoln, and other clergy, and by the choir, who subsequently accompanied it to the cemetery, where a large number of citizens had assembled. The Dean was buried in the same grave as Mrs. Blakesley, who died in 1880.

The Rev. Frederick Field, LL.D., the author of several theological works, died on Sunday at his residence at Heigham, Norwich, in the 84th year of his age. He graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he obtained the Tyrwhitt Hebrew Scholarship, and took his bachelor's degree as 10th Wrangler and Chancellor's medalist in 1823. He was afterwards elected to a Fellowship and proceeded M.A. in due course. Mr. Field was ordained deacon in 1828 by the Bishop of Lincoln (Dr. Kaye), and admitted to priest's orders in the same year by the Bishop of Ely (Dr. Sparke). He remained a Fellow of his college till 1843, when he was instituted to the rectory of Reepham, in Norfolk, which he held till 1863. He was created an hon. LL.D. of Cambridge University in 1875. He was a member of the Old Testament Revision Company and the editor of Barrow's *Treatise on the Pope's Supremacy*, and of several learned works published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Clarendon Press, and the Cambridge University Press.

An amateur performance in aid of the funds for the restoration of St. Michael's Church, Appleby, Westmoreland, will be given by the kind permission of the Marquis of Abergavenny, at 34, Dover-street, Mayfair, on Friday evening, the 15th of May. The attractive programme comprises the comediotta of *Cousin Zack* and an original opera by Lady Arthur Hill, entitled *The Lost Husband*.

The following letter has been written by the Rev. W. H. Bullock, the senior chaplain to the Souakim expedition:—

"Souakim, April 8.

"My dear Chaplain-General,—It is about time I should report progress.

"The first thing I did when I had settled down to the work was to 'build an altar to the living God' at the base of operations. For this, after a great deal of trouble, I secured a large Indian tent, and, with the assistance of the carpenter coolies, had a good altar made, with retable and cross. The trouble was about the flowers in the midst of a desert. The only thing was to rob Osman Digna, who has a garden close by, near some wells. An officer of the Guards engaged to get them, and, with the assistance of the Sisters at the hospital, we had a well-decorated altar on Easter Day, much to the gratification of the twenty communicants who came to the 7 a.m. celebration.

"I will give you an account of our work last Sunday to give you an idea of what we are doing; and first of myself:—

"7 a.m.—Celebration at the base; twenty communicants.

"8.30 a.m.—Service at the front with the Guards Brigade, and other details; 1,200 on parade.

"9 a.m.—Celebration for brigade; forty communicants.

"I had some difficulty in arranging for this, as the Guards came in late on Saturday evening from Tamai; but the moment they arrived I heliographed to the General to notify to his brigade that there would be Communion, and to provide a tent. I got the answer at once that everything should be in readiness.

"We had a wonderful service. Nearly all the officers communicated—G.O.C. included—and several men. It was the most impressive scene I ever witnessed. They had pitched two large square tents without the flaps, except at the altar end, and there they had placed a barrack-table. The service was virtually in the open air, and we all knelt in the desert sand, and there was an earnestness on the face of every one, the like of which I have never seen. At the parade service it was just the same. Every man's face had an eager, thoughtful expression, which was most striking. Preaching was out of the question. A few 'brave words' to brave men—men who wanted to be encouraged and cheered—was all I could say. A campaign brutalises a few, but it softens most, and begets a feeling of brotherhood not to be seen elsewhere. People you don't know speak to you, and kindness reigns supreme. After the service with the Guards I came back to the base, and had service

in my church tent. I had arranged sitting accommodation for 200, and every seat was full, a few standing—(the R.E. have built me forms). At 5.30 I had Evensong in my church tent, with a fair attendance, a good many of whom were patients. Last Sunday, too, was a holiday at the front. The troops had been out to Tamai the day before, and were glad of a rest on Sunday; so we had very large church parades. Statham was out with them, and as he was very tired he had only his church parade. He is a most excellent man, does his work well, and is very popular with his brigade. He was in the zebra during that awful fight on Palm Sunday and I hear nothing but the highest praise as to his conduct during the affair, carrying water to the men, serving out ammunition. There is no opportunity for spiritual work in a battle, so he did what a brave man could, and was useful among the wounded after. He is an acquisition to the department.

"There is also here a man named Rose, chaplain to the Australian contingent, in English orders, a protégé of Bishop Barry. He has put himself for duty under me, a very hard worker. Every one in the contingent speaks highly of him. He has real influence among his men. I have utilised him hitherto for the cavalry brigade. He had parade service for them on Sunday, and a celebration (twenty communicants), and another parade for convalescents and Medical Staff Corps at 5 p.m.

"The hospital work here is heavy. *Bulimba* and *Ganges*, two hospital ships—one at the base, and another at H reloubt, just in rear of the fighting ranks, for the wounded when brought in from the front. There is so much work of this kind that I have divided it among us all. They must be visited every day, especially as sickness is increasing every day in the shape of fever and dysentery.

"As you most likely know, we are all dressed in khakee, and there is nothing to distinguish us from other officers. I don't know what to suggest, but something is wanted to let it be known who we are. Any badge that would tell its own story at once. The medics have robbed us of our cross. Perhaps something on the right arm might do. But it is a want that ought to be supplied. A surplice has a marvellous effect on a campaign. I have been told over and over again how actually refreshing it was to see a vested clergyman, when they had been fighting all the week—a man of peace in the midst of a scene of war.

"There is no difficulty in getting access to men's hearts here. I have had more religious talks with men in a week here than in a month in the piping times of peace. There are plenty of good prayers made even by men who never prayed before. And men's hearts are softened in a marvellous way. I spend between two and three hours a day in the hospital tents, and I hope I do some good."

A correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"There seems to be an opinion current that the Bishops of London have departed from the Established Episcopal rule of Latin signature in writing 'C. J. London,' 'A. C. London,' 'J. London,' as hitherto. This is a mistake, for although the Roman name was 'Londinium,' the ecclesiastical and legal name has been, as shown by charters and patents, 'apud Londoniam,' 'Turrin nostram Londonia,' 'Londoniensis Episcopus.' The abbreviated form was either 'Lond.,' as in 13th century records, or 'London,' as in the 14th and 16th. The Bishops of Worcester and of a few other Sees have adopted the practice of signing in English, but 'Lincoln' and 'London,' are in the traditional Latin."

Notwithstanding the depressed state of the mercantile marine, which threw thousands of seamen out of work last year, it appears that the chaplains of the Missions to Seamen sold Bibles and Testaments at the full price to 3,383 seamen and fishermen speaking twenty languages, besides gratuitous gifts of second-hand Bibles in cases where money was not available. During the last five years 20,402 Bibles were thus sold to seamen and fishermen, often after week-day services held on board ships anchored at a distance from the land. There were also 6,786 Prayer books sold to sailors by the Missions to Seamen in the same period, besides gratuitous gifts of second-hand copies to captains willing to conduct Divine worship when at sea. For this latter purpose much larger numbers of Books of Common Prayer are required, and, no doubt, several thousand copies could be usefully given away to captains annually if supplies were sent to the Missions to Seamen Chaplains.

A large and influential meeting of the laity and clergy of the counties of Lincoln and Notts and other friends was held on Monday in the Consistory Court of Lincoln Cathedral, to take into consideration the erection of a memorial to the late Bishop of Lincoln. The chair was taken by Earl Brownlow, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, and the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

1. That the varied attainments, great gifts, and singular graces of character, of the late Right Reverend Christopher, Lord Bishop of Lincoln, as shown in his "well-covering" of the See of Lincoln, demand a permanent memorial in the diocese which he administered with such conspicuous faithfulness and munificence for sixteen years.

2. That a recumbent effigy of the late Bishop to be placed, with the consent of the Dean and Chapter, in the Cathedral church of Lincoln, form part of such memorial.

3. That a committee be formed to carry out the resolutions of this meeting, with power to collect funds, and to take preliminary steps in the matter of the memorial now decided on; and that such committee be directed to call a general meeting of the subscribers before the arrangements for the memorial are definitely concluded.

The secretaries of the fund are Sub-Dean Clements and the Rev. G. T. Harvey. Thanks to Lord Brownlow for presiding were proposed by Sir Charles Anderson and seconded by Canon Perry. The effigy is to cost £2,000.

On Sunday morning the new Church of St. Clement, East Dulwich, was opened under licence of the Bishop of Rochester with a solemn service of dedication. Owing to the Bishop's illness the consecration had to be postponed, but the Bishop hopes to be able to consecrate the new building on Whit Sunday, so that the parishioners of the new district may have an opportunity of attending. The Rev. J. H. Thomas, vicar of Hillingdon, preached at the dedication service, and at the close of the evening service a solemn *Te Deum* was sung as an act of thanksgiving. The church has been provided mainly by the liberality of Mr. Francis Peek, who contributed

£8,500 to the building fund, for the accommodation of a newly-populated district in the parish of St. John, Dulwich, and mission services have for some time been held in a temporary iron church in the poorest part of the district. About £700 was raised in the neighbourhood for the site, and several handsome gifts have been made by other friends. The church has been erected in the Early English style, and consists of nave, chancel, and two aisles, with tower at the north-east angle, and baptistery at the west end.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells held his visitation last week. The chief subjects he discussed were the attack on the Church by the Liberation Society and Socialism. The former, he said, if successful, "would, by reducing the Christian monarchy to a godless State, be an act of such injury to religion that he had the utmost difficulty in thinking it possible that any servant of God would take part in it; and it was the duty of every Churchman, whatever his party politics, to gird up his loins and offer a steady and uncompromising resistance to those reckless schemes which would strip the Church of England of her revenues and her influence." Regarding Socialism, the Bishop said:—"Another alarming feature of the times as deeply affecting both the Church and the State was the growth of Communism or Socialism. He had been used all his life to think that England was eminent—pre-eminent—among the nations of the earth for the possession of three great civil blessings—security of person, security of life, security of property. Each of these was a most important element in the enjoyment of the life that God had given them on this earth, and they were among the noblest results of high civilisation, and of free, strong, and just government. Of these, security of property was not the least important—as important, he ventured to say, to those who had no property as to those who had. It was the foundation of all industry and thrift; it was the spring of national character; it was the feeder of national power; it was the stronghold of national morality. Like other germs, it had expansions and ramifications far beyond what was apparent at first sight, and exercised a constant influence upon civilisation and morality. This security was being rudely shaken, and several recent acts of the Legislature had appeared to him to have sprung from this loosened sense of the sanctity of the rights of property."

With reference to our observations of last week on the alleged defectiveness of the Bishop of Liverpool's teaching on Holy Communion, it is only fair to quote the following extracts from his Lordship's tracts:—"The Lord's supper was meant to help our faith to closer fellowship with a crucified Saviour. It is an ordinance for redeemed sinners. By receiving it you publicly declare your sense of guilt and need of a Saviour, &c. . . . *Do you turn away from it when it is administered?* If so, how can you justify your conduct? *It will not do to say it is not a necessary ordinance; to say so is to pour contempt on Christ Himself, and declare that you do not obey Him.*" (*Expository Tracts*, No. 20.) "Let us take heed to ourselves in the matter of the Lord's Supper. As long as we so stay away, we are disobeying a plain command of Christ, and are living in sin. . . . *It is an awful thing to be unfit for the Sacrament, for this is to be unfit to die.*" (*Ibid*, No. 21.) In another tract, written many years ago and circulated since by tens of thousands, entitled *Why, and Why Not?* the following passages occur:—"The man who coolly and deliberately refuses to use an ordinance which the Lord Jesus Christ appointed for his profit may be very sure that his soul is in a very wrong state. There is a judgment yet to come; there is an account to be rendered of all our conduct on earth. How any one can look forward to that day and expect to meet Christ with comfort and in peace if he has refused all his life to meet Christ in His own ordinance, is a thing I cannot understand. Never be absent when this ordinance is administered. Make every sacrifice to be in your place. The man who finds it a weariness to attend on every occasion when the Lord's Table is spread may well doubt whether all is right within him, and whether he is ready for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels held its usual monthly meeting, the first at its new offices, 2, Dean's-yard, Westminster, on Thursday, the 16th inst. Archdeacon Harrison occupied the chair, and there were also present the Bishop of Llandaff, Lord Colchester, Archdeacon Burney, Canon Cazenove, Canon T. W. Perry, the Rev. C. A. Jones, the Rev. C. F. Norman, and the Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston (secretary). Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects, viz.:—

Compton All Saints, in the parish of Leek, Staffs., £250; rebuilding St. John's Church, Morvil, near Fishguard, Pembroke, £50; enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Little Bromley, near Manningtree, Essex, £50; Calthorpe, St. Thomas, near Rugby, £35; South Darley, St. Mary-near-Matlock, Derby, £25; Glasgow, St. David, near Bult, £30; Heybridge, St. Andrew, near Maldon, Essex, £30; Llanawel, St. Sawyl, near Llandilo, Carmarthen, £35; Puncnoll, St. Mary, near Bridport, £40; Sheerness, Holy Trinity, £60; and Llanbyther, St. Peter, Carmarthen, £40, in lieu of a former grant of £25. Grants were also made from the Special Mission Buildings Fund towards building mission churches at Tyleydon, in the parish of St. Fagans, Aberdare, £20, and Llanfair, in the parish of Cwmaman, Carmarthen, £50.

The following grants for works completed were also paid:—

Towards building St. Philip's, Hull, £300; rebuilding on a new site Christ Church, Northam, near Southampton, £250; enlarging St. Andrew's, Halstead, Essex, £30; St. Silas's, Poutonville, Middlesex, £20; and Milton-street, Maidstone, mission building, £25.

The Society likewise accepted the trust of sums of money as repair funds for Ore Church, Sussex, and Norton-green mission building, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure in showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice have continued their drives at Aix-les-Bains, generally twice a day. On Sunday Her Majesty and the Princess attended Divine service at the English church, the Rev. D. L. McNally officiating, assisted by the Rev. T. A. Sneath. The Queen left Aix on Wednesday at three o'clock, and reached Darmstadt on Thursday morning. The confirmation of the Hereditary Grand Duke, Her Majesty's grandson, is to take place to-morrow (Sunday).

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert* is under orders to leave Portsmouth on Tuesday next to embark the Queen at Flushing. It is expected that her Majesty will land at Portsmouth.

The Princess Christian, who was accompanied by Prince Christian, on Tuesday distributed the prizes and certificates to the successful candidates of the St. John Ambulance Class for Ladies, at the Polytechnic Institute, Regent-street. Her Royal Highness also presented the medal awarded by the Order of St. John of Jerusalem to Inspector Double for saving the life of a poor woman at King's-cross Station at the risk of his own.

The Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, as the Governing Body of the King's School on the Cathedral foundation, have been obliged to adopt a somewhat singular expedient to enable them to purchase a cricket ground for the boys of the school. In consequence of there being no separate fund at their disposal for such a purpose, they have, with the approval of the Charity Commissioners, prepared a scheme, by which it is proposed to suspend for a few years several of the exhibitions, and with the money thus available they will purchase an extensive piece of land just outside the city, the possession of a cricket ground being held to be essential to the welfare of the school.

The memorial stone of the new buildings for Sion College, which is to be removed from London-wall to the Victoria Embankment, was laid on Tuesday afternoon with some ceremony. The college was originally founded as a monastery in the fourteenth century by William Elsynge, a mercer, and was afterwards given by Henry VIII. to Sir John Williams, Master of the Jewel Office, and in 1603 was rebuilt by Dr. Thomas White, and received two Royal Charters. It was best known in modern days for its admirable library, rather than for its almshouses or place of meeting for the London clergy. The fellows of the College received the Bishop of the diocese, their visitor, at St. Bride's Church, Fleet-street; and the President, the Rev. Alfred Povah, rector of St. Olave, Hart-street, read a congratulatory address agreed upon a few days since at a general meeting of the Fellows. This part of the proceedings took place in the vestry, where the Fellows assembled in large numbers. At four o'clock evening prayer was said in St. Bride's Church; the former part of the service by the Rev. E. C. Hawkins, the vicar, the latter by the Rev. J. F. Kitto, rector of Stepney, Senior Dean of the College. The Bishop of Bedford read the Lesson, and the Bishop of London delivered an address. After the service there was a formal procession to the site, where a short and impressive service was held, the Rev. W. H. Milman taking the first part. The President then delivered an address, and formally laid the stone, and the Bishop said the two concluding prayers and gave the blessing. The choir of St. Bride's and St. Lawrence Jewry rendered the musical part of the service effectively, and the general arrangements were superintended by the Rev. M. S. A. Walrond, rector of St. Lawrence Jewry, a member of the Court of Sion College. St. Bride's bells rang out a merry peal at the conclusion of the proceedings.

Much regret has been occasioned in Roman Catholic circles in this country, as well as in France, by the death of Miss Mary Barbara Felicite Hales, who succumbed to an attack of congestion of the lungs, brought on by a cold, at Sarra Court, midway between Canterbury and Ramsgate, on Saturday night. The deceased lady was the daughter of the late Sir Edward Hales and Edmunda Nicola Felicite Pulcaris Hales (formerly D'Cecey), and was, we believe, the last survivor of a Kentish family named Hales, dating back four hundred years, who originally owned vast estates at Woodchurch and Tenterden, in that county. Miss Hales was for many years a ward in chancery, and on coming of age she succeeded to a very extensive property, including a large mansion at Canterbury, known as Hales Place, which is now, together with the estates attached to it, the property of a body of Jesuits, who have founded a college for the education of the sons of French nobility and gentry. Previous to occupying this estate Miss Hales took the veil, and passed a considerable period in a French convent. After she had resided a few years at Hales Place she desired to build a monastery on the estate, and the outer walls had already been erected before her trustees interfered and frustrated her intentions. This gave rise to a lawsuit, which resulted in the trustees having to pay the contractor a sum of £30,000. A few years ago Miss Hales became financially embarrassed, her debts amounting to £116,235, of which, however, £86,823 was secured. An arrangement was effected, and the deceased lady had since lived upon an allowance made by her trustees. Miss Hales was a witness in the Tichborne case. The Claimant had stated that while he was quartered with the Carbineers at Canterbury he used to go to Hales Place, and was in the habit of talking to Miss Hales, who, however, when examined said she could not identify the Claimant as Sir Roger Tichborne. The deceased lady was born in 1835.

A special circular from the War Office calling out a portion of the First Class Army Reserve, and notifying the probability of a further call upon the reserves of all arms at an early date, was issued on Tuesday, and caused great excitement and animation in military centres throughout the United Kingdom. The call had by no means been unexpected, and in several districts a large number of the men whose services were likely to be required had been holding themselves in readiness to obey it. In the north of England great readiness was shown in responding to the call, and a large body of men put in an appearance in the course of the morning at the depôts of the

territorial regiments to which they belong. The depôts of those regiments which have been mentioned in the circular as being likely to have their reserve men called out at an early date were also besieged by men anxious to know when their services were likely to be required.

An interesting ceremony took place at Ormiston, East Lothian, on Saturday, the occasion being the unveiling of a monument, erected by subscription, in honour of the late Dr. Robert Moffat, the celebrated missionary to Africa, who was a native of Ormiston. The monument consists of a handsome obelisk, 21ft. high, cut from a block of Peterhead granite, having upon it a bronze medallion of the distinguished missionary, the work of Mr. D. W. Stevenson, A.R.S.A. The village was crowded with visitors, a large number of whom travelled from Edinburgh by special train, and this company included representatives of the University, the churches, and the commercial classes. The weather was magnificent. The ceremony was performed by Sir William Muir, the recently installed Principal of Edinburgh University. Mr. Arthur Marshall, representing the London Missionary Society, also took part in the proceedings, which were varied by the singing of school children. Later in the afternoon a banquet was held in the public school, at which a veteran Congregational Church clergyman, Mr. Cullen, presided. The toast of the memory of Dr. Moffat was proposed by Professor Calderwood, and replied to by the Rev. John Moffat, a son of the missionary, and a late magistrate in the Transvaal and Basutoland.

Mr. Goschen delivered an address to working men on Saturday evening at Owens College, Manchester, in connection with a series of lectures which it is proposed to give next winter under the auspices of the Working Men's Clubs Association. He said that if the promoters of the present movement were successful, Owens College would gain in numbers and in usefulness. They would, he thought, be unanimous in the feeling that in proportion as power was wielded by the masses they should become educated to a knowledge of the vast responsibilities which were laid upon them. Among the important subjects they should bear in mind was that of comparative politics—the politics of other countries than our own. It was necessary to study those lessons in the calm of the lecture-room before they had to discuss them in the heated arena of practical politics. He was there to plead that the working classes—and, indeed, every class in the country—added to its usefulness, its goodness, and its happiness by the pursuit of knowledge. In that respect all classes of society were in the same boat. We were distinctly—as a people—fond of intellectual pursuits and ready to read with interest all good works written and published on the subjects of science, art, and literature. It was true we had not the splendidly learned men of Germany—men who devoted themselves with life-long zeal to special subjects and produced marvellously able works on those subjects, but there was a more generally diffused interest in intellectual questions in England than even in Germany. He was there to plead the cause of general culture, of general reading, of increased intellectual employment, and he knew that what it was that he invited their attention. He was inviting them to help themselves to a supply of which there was no limit whatever. In the realms of knowledge the mines were inexhaustible. The ore was there, and it would never be worked out. The workers were there in numbers, the furnaces were there melting down the ore, and he was present that evening to ask them to increase the demand.

A Blue-book has been issued containing statistics respecting the strength and condition of the British army during 1884. From the tables given it appears that the effective strength of the regular army was 181,227 on January 1 last year, and 188,216 on December 1, making the average strength for the year 183,014. The Army Reserve numbered 39,286 in Class I., and 7,738 in Class II. on the 1st of January of the present year. The strength of the militia and yeomanry on the dates of inspection of 1884 was 131,787 and 11,488 respectively; whilst the volunteer force on the 1st of November, 1884, stood at 215,015. Of the regular army, the average strength of the force at home during 1884 was 89,994, the number abroad being 93,010. The proportions of the several branches of the service were as follow:—Cavalry, 16,908; Royal Artillery, 31,727; Royal Engineers, 5,573; Infantry, &c., 128,796. The army in Egypt on the 1st of January, 1885, was 15,269 strong; in the colonies (including drafts on passage out), 26,013; and in the East Indies (including drafts on passage out), 57,928; the general total at home and abroad on that date being 183,637. The total effective strength of January, 1875, was 185,432; and on the 1st of January, 1865, 213,966. A similar comparison of the strength of the Volunteers gives the following result:—1884, 208,365 officers out of a total enrolment of 215,015; 1874, 161,100 out of 175,387; and 1864, 123,707 out of 170,544.

At the School Board for London on Thursday, Mr. Buxton presiding, the School Management Committee made it known that the trustees of the Mitchell's Charity had agreed to give eight scholarships of the annual value of £30, instead of six as formerly, and that six of these were to be for boys and two for girls. Six boys and two girls were presented to the Board, and congratulated by the Chairman on having obtained these scholarships. In reply to a question, the Chairman of the Board denied that he had ever stated at the opening of a school that five-sixths of the children were degraded by having their school fees remitted. His argument was quite to a contrary effect.

A man appeared before Mr. Bushby at the Worship-street Police-court on Tuesday morning, and made an application respecting a son of his for whom, he said, he was unable to provide education, because the Board schools in his neighbourhood (the Hackney district) were full. He had taken the boy to six schools in that district, and each admission had been refused, the schools being full. He asked the magistrate what he had better do. Mr. Bushby suggested that the applicant should see Mr. Hetherington, the superintendent under the Board for the Hackney district. That gentleman would most probably see that a place was somewhat obtained for the boy.

A meeting of the Church of England Funeral and Mourning Reform Association, at which a number of the members of the Northern Convocation were pre-

sent, was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Chapter House, York Minster. The Bishop of Sodor and Man, who presided, said little could be added to the arguments which had been put forward in aid of the efforts of that important association, which dealt with a question which affected the whole community, and they were thankful for the success it had had up to the present time. Their meetings had never been large, but thanks to the efforts of their very active secretary, they had persevered in holding meetings, because they had acted on the principle that if the reform was to be carried out extensively it must be kept constantly before the public. There had been a marked progress made in the work of the association, and that, he thought, had been done more from the example set by the upper classes than by any of the arguments that had been put forward in favour of the movement. The upper classes generally had seen the force of what had been urged by the association, and they had done away with what he had almost called the vulgar, tawdry things in connection with funerals, and so had also done away with much of the expense connected with funerals. He hoped they would be encouraged by the success they had obtained up to the present time to do more than they had yet done to confer a great benefit on all classes of the community. The Rev. F. Lawrence (hon. sec.) then made a statement of the origin and objects of the Association, and in which were quoted utterances in approval of the aims of the Association of the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Manchester, Peterborough, Lichfield, and Llandaff; and Mr. F. Seymour Haden. The resolution—

That this Conference welcomes the efforts made to Christianise, simplify, and cheapen funeral and mourning ceremonial, was proposed by Archdeacon Blakeney, seconded by Canon Dodd, and carried unanimously. Canon Ainger proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman. The proposition having been seconded and passed, the Bishop of Sodor and Man, in replying, said he was afraid there was an idea abroad that funeral and mourning reform could be carried on for nothing. That was not, of course, correct, and the expenses of the Society amounted to between £50 and £80 a year—a sum which would be met if a small number of people would subscribe 5s. or 10s. annually.

Another outrage, generally attributed to the dynamite conspiracy, was perpetrated in London on Thursday morning, when an explosion took place at the Admiralty. The room in which it occurred overlooks a small enclosed garden facing the large open space of the Horse Guards parade in St. James's Park. This apartment was occupied by Mr. Swainson, Assistant Permanent Secretary to the Admiralty, who received severe injuries. The injured man was conveyed to the St. Thomas's House, connected with the St. Thomas's Hospital. Meanwhile the Home Secretary had been made acquainted with what had taken place, and he was soon upon the scene. The strictest orders were given that no one should be allowed to enter or go out of the building who failed to satisfy the police stationed at different spots and conspicuously at the gates that his business necessitated his presence there. No one was allowed to enter the room in which the explosion had taken place, as it was felt desirable that nothing there should be touched until Colonel Majendie had arrived and made an inspection. Later in the day that gentleman drove up to the Admiralty, and proceeded at once to institute an inquiry as to the cause of the explosion. The apartment where the explosion took place presented a scene of the wildest disorder. The furniture was smashed, and a considerable portion of the structural work of the room had been torn down. Thus upon the ground was to be seen a heterogeneous mass several inches in depth, which included plaster, laths, papers, books, bottles, fragments of wood and tapestry, and many other things. The cornice all round the ceiling of the room had been destroyed, and the window frames, in some places wholly and in other places partially, blown away. The walls were dented in a hundred places; while on the southern and eastern sides were large breakages in the lath and plaster, several square inches in size and an inch or so in depth. Had there been but one of these breakages in the wall it would have been unhesitatingly put down as the seat of the explosion; but the fact that there are two would seem to deprive either of any such significance. Throughout the Admiralty offices there are a large number of windows broken, and many of the apartments are in the condition of the one known as Lord Northbrook's room, and cannot boast of a whole pane. The neighbouring buildings have, however, escaped practically uninjured. Throughout the day many distinguished men besides the Home Secretary went over the buildings to inspect the extent and character of the damage done. Some trace of clock-work has been found, and it is believed that the explosive was dynamite or gun-cotton, placed on a book-case between the windows. No arrests have been made.

Some remarkable figures, showing the enormous annual increase in the number of life insurances effected, not only in the United Kingdom but also in America, are given in the Annual Report for 1884 of the New York Life Insurance Company, which at the same time furnishes a striking record of the company's progress during the past year. Some idea of the vastness of the business transacted, and of the commercial prosperity of the company, may be gathered from the fact that the surplus over all liabilities amounted to no less than £2,036,332, while cash bonuses to the amount of £368,339 were paid to the policy-holders, amongst whom all profits are divided annually—there being no shareholders. The number of new policies issued was 17,463, insuring £12,651,142, and the interest received was £591,232, being £126,793 in excess of the amount paid for death claims. Such a record as this, in addition to the fact that the company has an accumulated fund securely invested of £12,127,930, having increased during the year by £747,955, is in itself irrefutable evidence of the extensive business done by the company, while the returns of the English branch say much for the energy and business tact of the general manager, J. Fisher Smith, Esq. The trustees of this branch are the Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers, M.P., F. Francis, Esq., and A. H. Phillpotts, Esq., and with whom is deposited 250,000 dollars in United States Bonds (for the protection of all policy holders and annuitants), and 100,000 dollars in the same Bonds (as additional protection for the representatives of deceased policy holders), or equal to over £70,000 in all.

The death is announced of Viscountess Frankfort de Montmorency, which took place at Brighton, at the close of the past week, aged seventy-six. The deceased Viscountess Georgina Frederica was the daughter of the late Mr. Peter FitzGibbon Henchy, Q.C., and married, Jan. 12, 1835, the present Viscount Frankfort, by whom she leaves issue Colonel the Hon. Raymond Harvey de Montmorency, late 32nd Foot.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending April 18 was—medical 588, surgical 244; total 832, of which 370 were new cases.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

"They come as a boon and a blessing to men, The Pickwick, the Owl, and the Waverley Pen." THE LATEST INVENTION for rapid writing.

"The Flying Scotchman Pen." "A luxury for the million."—Public Opinion. 6d. and 1s. per box, of all Stationers.

Sample box of all kinds, by post, 1s. 1d. Patentees—MACNIVEN & CAMERON, EDINBURGH, PENMAKERS TO THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES (Estab. 1770)

"Laden with the scent of flowers, And breath of odorous spring."

SPINNER'S TEA.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest tea that comes from India and China at 2s. 8d. a pound, in packets only. This is the perfection of tea, and will please the most fastidious. Agents wanted in every town and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London. —SPINNER & Co., London and Liverpool.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7d., tins 1s. 1d., labelled, "JAMES EPPS AND CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co. are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent." While Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease."

BIRTHS.

April 15, at St. Helens-park crescent, Southsea, the wife of Major AUGUSTUS J. LAVIS, Royal Artillery, of a daughter.
April 16, at 39, Dover-street, Lady MARGARET BICKERSTETH, of a daughter.
April 16, at 18, Royal-crescent, Ramsgate, Mrs. BURNARD, of a daughter.
April 16, at F. C. Burnard, of a son.
April 17, at Chase side, Southgate, the wife of the Rev. A. LONGMAN WILSON, of a son.
April 17, at Temple Grafton Vicarage, Alcester, the wife of the Rev. A. F. THORNHILL, of a son.
April 17, at Stourton Hall, near Stourbridge, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES EDWARD ARCHIBALD MCCOMAS, of a daughter.
April 20, at 50, South Audley-street, the wife of the Hon. A. F. KINLAID, of a son.
April 21, at the Vicarage, Chaddle, Hulme, Cheshire, the wife of the Rev. HARRY VICTOR MACDONA, of a son (AMBROS LAUCKLOT).
April 21, at 10, St. Mary's-villas, Battle, Sussex, the wife of the Rev. FREDERICK MOORE, M.A., Rector of Whatlington, Sussex, of a son.
April 21, at Duncannon Park, Tyrone, the Countess of RANFURLY, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

April 8, at St. Paul's Church, St. George, the Rev. ROBERT TOMKINSON, to Rectory of Chiping Waden, Northamptonshire, to FANNY ELIZA, second daughter of the late HENRY WARD, Esq., of Stafford.
April 15, at the parish church of St. Peter, Brighton, the Rev. JAMES GERALD FITZGERALD, Prebendary and Rector of the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, Connor, diocese of Down, to ELIZABETH ANNE, youngest daughter of the late JAMES SIGHTON, Esq., sometime of Glasnevin Lodge, county Dublin.
April 15, at St. Paul's Church, Dundee, CYRUS MORRELL, Esq., of Glas Yollyn, Shropshire, to ANNE KINLOCH, younger daughter of the Rev. ROGER LINGARD GUTHRIE, of Taybank and Carnoustie, Forfarshire.
April 16, at Trinity Church, Edinburgh, JOHN GALBRAITH BORN, Advocate, to CAROLINE ELIZABETH, second daughter of Sir GEORGE and Lady LEITH BUCHANAN, of Ross Priory, Dumfriesshire, and Dryburgh, Melrose, N.B.
April 16, at St. Mary the Virgin, Dartington, South Devon, GEORGE KESTELL KESTELL-CORNEISH, eldest son of the Bishop of Madagascar, to SARAH LOUISA, daughter of the Rev. RICHARD CHAMPELLOWNE, Rector of Dartington.
April 16, at St. Olave's, Hart-street, FREDERICK GEORGE AMBROSE, second son of the Rev. ALFRED POYAH, M.A., President of Sion College, to EDITH SPENCER (N.Y.), only daughter of the late JOHN STEVEN BANNING, Esq., of 21, Great Tower-street, and neighbour St. George, Wilt.
April 16, at 18, Palace Church, county Antrim, the Rev. JOHN T. FENNER, Rector of Gawwagh, Cheshire, second son of the Rev. J. D. Fenner, Woodhill, county Cork, to ANNIE CHARLOTTE LAVINA, eldest daughter of EDMUND MCNEILL, Esq., J.P., Craigdunn, county Antrim.
April 20, at Belsford, Lincolnshire, CHARLES ARCHER COOK, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law, to the Hon. ADRA BROUGHAM, youngest daughter of Lord Brougham and Vaux.
April 21, at St. Stephen's Martyr, Avenue-road, N.W., COLONEL ROBERT ANDREWS COLE, Madras Staff Corps, to HENRIETTA, youngest daughter of the Rev. Canon FORTES, 1, Lancaster-terrace, Regent's-park, N.W.
April 21, at Gainsford Parish Church, Rev. ROBERT MORRISON HERDMAN, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, North Shields, second son of the late Edward and Eleanor Herdman, of the same town, to MARY, second daughter of THOMAS WEARMOUTH, Esq., Gainsford, county Durham.
April 21, at Christ Church, Cheltenham, WILLIAM LAWRENCE STANTON, of Lowfield, Tetbury, to MARY LILLIAN, eldest daughter of the late Rev. NICHOLAS FRANK HILL, Abbot Court, Cheltenham, formerly Fellow of New College, Oxford.
April 21, at the British Embassy, Rome, the Rev. WILLIAM BELLETT SEALY, M.A., of Norwich, second son of the Rev. Sparks B. Sealy, Vicar of Gosberton, Lincolnshire, to KATHARINE ELIZABETH, third daughter of the late ROBERT JOHN WRIGHT, of the Lower Close, Norwich.
April 22, at the British Consulate-General, Havre, and at the Church of Holy Trinity, the Rev. GEORGE WHITTON, M.A., to GEORGINA ELIZABETH, second daughter of the late Sir WILLIAM HENRY HOLMES, Knight.

DEATHS.

April 15, at the Royal Dockyard, Deptford, THOMAS GEORGE GRANT, Esq., eldest son of the late Sir Thomas Tassel Grant, K.C.B., F.R.S.
April 16, at Brighton, the Viscountess FRANKFORT DE MONTMORENCY, in her 77th year.
April 21, at 29, Albemarle-street, OLIVIA CECILIA, Dowager Countess COWLEY, aged 78.
April 22, at 21, Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square, LYDIA MARY CHARLOTTE KEANE, widow of Captain A. H. PALAIRET, late 25th Regiment, and youngest daughter of the late Rev. J. H. Bradney, aged 61.

LATEST NEWS.

PARIS, April 24.

The Ministry of War has received the following despatch from General Briere de Lisle, dated Hanoi, 5 p.m., April 23:—"The Chinese Commissioners, whose coming was announced by my telegram of the 21st, left Haiphong to-day for Hanoi. The Chinese troops assembled before Kep fell back yesterday as far as Bac-le. No difficulties of any kind have arisen."

The following telegram from Cairo of to-day's date has been received:—"The instructions received from Paris yesterday by the French Consul-General direct him to suspend all official relations with the Egyptian Government, and moreover declare that the French Government declines until further notice to sanction the recent financial arrangements concluded in favour of Egypt. Finally, the French Government reserves to itself complete liberty of action."

ALEXANDRIA, April 24, 2.10 p.m.

The French Consul-General at Cairo waited upon the Khedive and Nubar Pasha and his colleagues, and read a telegram from the French Government instructing him to break his relations with Egypt. The Consul has left Cairo in readiness to embark for Europe.

CAIRO, April 24.

The French Diplomatic Agent this morning renewed the demands of his Government for reparation in the affair of the *Bosphore Egyptien*, and intimated that if they were refused he would immediately break off diplomatic relations and leave Cairo. A compromise will be proposed this afternoon by the Egyptian Government. The latter, it is stated, will acknowledge the breaking open of the printing-office of the *Bosphore Egyptien* to have been a violation of domicile, for which it will apologise. The suppression of the paper will not, however, be alluded to.

OTTAWA, April 24.

The massacre at Frog Lake by Indians is now fully confirmed. Particulars show that the Indians burned all the buildings, and compelled the people to attend church. After service had been held, they shot ten of the helpless whites. Two priests were beaten to death, and their bodies were afterwards burned. Details of the fight at Fort Pitt are also to hand. It appears that in consequence of the growing hostility against the whites manifested by the Indians, the factor, Mr. McLean, became alarmed, and visited the camp of the Indian chief Big Bear, to confer with him and claim his protection. Big Bear forced Mr. McLean to write a letter to the civilians at Fort Pitt, telling them to join the chief, or he (McLean) would be killed. The civilians complied, but the police refused to surrender. A fight ensued, in which the police drove back the Indians, killing and wounding several of them. They then prepared a scow, and went down the river to Battleford.

TAMBOUK, April 24.

A portion of the camel corps, half a battalion of the Scots Guards, some mounted infantry, and two guns, accompanied by some friendly Arabs, are now reconnoitring towards Es Sibil. Spies report that there are about five hundred of the enemy between that place and Tambouk.

The *Standard's* correspondent at Rome, telegraphing on Thursday, says:—"The Pope has received from Ireland a somewhat strange anonymous document, which, after rehearsing the evils afflicting that country, implores Leo XIII. not to yield to the pressure of the English Government, who are anxious to make the Irish clergy the accomplices of their oppression. All the efforts to discover the author have been in vain. The evident purpose, say the Vatican authorities, is to trouble the decisions of the Irish Bishops who are assembling for the council at the Propaganda. The English Government are putting, through Mr. Errington, a very strong pressure on the Vatican to secure the nomination of Dr. Donnelly to the See of Dublin. The Vatican finds considerable difficulty in selecting one who, though named in the triad noted by the Irish clergy as *dignior*, had fewer than half the number of votes given to Dr. Walsh, who was returned as *dignissimus*. Mr. Errington is using every effort to carry out his instructions, but meets with small attention from the Irish Bishops. A rumour is current at the Vatican of a possible visit by the Prince of Wales. It is said there that if such a visit were made the Prince would come in execution of a mission calculated to impress the Irish clergy and Catholics generally. Many Irish Bishops have been sounded here as to their feelings respecting such a possible visit."

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons several questions bearing on the existing complication between England and Russia were put to the Prime Minister, but no information of importance was elicited. Replying to Lord JOHN MANNERS, Mr. GLADSTONE said the Government were not in possession of any adequate statement of Sir P. Lumden's reasons for removal from Gulran to Tirpud. The only information they had was as to the loss of the lives of a number of followers of the mission, who were overtaken by a snowstorm en route.

The *Daily News* says:—"The only hope of a peaceful settlement of the difficulty with Russia rests at the present moment upon the possibility of an arrangement on the broader basis of the delimitation of the frontier, negotiations for which are going forward apart from the Penjdeh question. The correspondence with St. Petersburg is, as Mr. Gladstone stated in the House of Commons on Thursday night, in a condition of 'extreme gravity,' but is not yet altogether hopeless."

The *Morning Post* understands that the Russian Government have declared that they consider the pending negotiations compromised by the statement made by the Government in both Houses, and especially by Mr. Gladstone.

The Bombay correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs:—"Colonel Nicholson is not to go to Herat to report upon the defences there, as the Ameer is unable to ensure his safety."

The telegraph wire has again been broken between Meshed and Teheran, with the consequence of once more cutting off Sir Peter Lumden from direct telegraphic communication with this country.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Captain Charles Boyle, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, second son of the Hon. and Rev. Richard C. Boyle, and Miss Lilian Pochin, only daughter of Mr. Charles Pochin, of Chislehampton.

Also between Commander the Hon. Francis R. Sandilands, R.N., youngest brother of Lord Torphichen, and Miss Maude Wiggins, daughter of Mr. Frederick A. Wiggins, of 9, Porchester-terrace, Hyde-park.

Also between Mr. E. T. Godman, of Banks Lee, Moreton-in-Marsh, and the Hon. Susan Verney, daughter of the late Lord Willoughby de Broke.

Also between Mr. Russell Spokes, youngest son of Sir Peter Spokes, of Chester-terrace, Regent's-park, and Reading, Berks, and Miss Jeanie Corner, only daughter of Mr. John Corner, of Albert-road, Regent's-park, and niece of Mr. Edward Corner, of Esk Hall, near Whitley, Yorks.

Also between Mr. Alfred Codrington, of the Coldstream Guards, only son of the late General Sir William Codrington, G.C.B., and Miss Portal, eldest daughter of Mr. and Lady Charlotte Portal, of Laverstoke, Hants.

The marriage of the Hon. F. Rollo Russell, son of the late Earl Russell, with Miss Alice Godfrey, of Balderton Hall, Notts, was solemnised on Tuesday morning at St. Augustine's Church, Queen's-gate, before a fashionable congregation. Among those who occupied prominent seats were the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, Lord and Lady Arthur Russell, Countess Russell and Lady Agatha Russell, Mr. and Lady Georgina Peel, Sir Henry and Lady Elliot, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Lee, Colonel and Mrs. Hanning Lee, the Marquis of Tavistock, Mrs. and Miss Balfour, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Childers, Lady Jane Harrington, Colonel, Lady Elizabeth, and Miss Romilly, Earl Russell, and Mrs. Vaughan Lee. The bride, who wore a costume of white satin and lace, trimmed with sprays of orange blossoms, was conducted to the altar by her stepfather, Major-General Lowther Balfour. She was attended by eight bridesmaids:—The Misses Violet and Edith Godfrey, sisters of the bride, Miss Gwendoline Balfour, Miss Villiers, Miss Peel, Miss Vaughan Lee, Miss Flora Russell, and Miss Diana Russell. The Hon. Arthur Elliot acted as best man. The service was fully choral. After the register had been signed the bridal party adjourned to 9, Foulis-terrace, Onslow-square, where the wedding breakfast was served. Later in the afternoon the newly-married couple left town for Woburn Abbey, the Duke of Bedford's country seat in Bedfordshire, where they intend spending their honeymoon.

St. George's, Hanover-square, was on Tuesday afternoon filled by an aristocratic congregation to witness the marriage of Sir Henry Meysey-Thompson, Bart., of Kirby Hall, York, with Miss Ethel Pottinger, only child of Sir H. Pottinger, Bart., of Hermitage, county Durham. Among those present were:—The Duke and Duchess of St. Albans, the Marchioness of Abergavenny and the Ladies Nevill, Lord Richard Nevill, the Marquis and Marchioness of Ripon, Viscount and Viscountess Dalrymple, the Right Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Childers, Lord and Lady Hothfield, his Excellency the German Ambassador and Countess Marie Münster, Lady Meysey-Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Northcote, Sir Robert and Lady Abercromby, Lord and Lady Glamis, the Hon. Kenneth Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Meysey Thompson, Lady Conyers and the Misses Lane Fox, Sir John and Lady Croft, and Lady de Saumarez and the Hon. Eleanor Saumarez. The bride was attired in a costume of rich white satin and embossed velvet brocade, trimmed with old lace and orange blossoms. There were seven bridesmaids:—Miss Meysey Thompson, Miss Florence Meysey Thompson, Miss Stephens, Miss Ada Baker, Miss Northcote, Miss Elsie Northcote, and Miss Sargent. They wore pretty dresses of primrose-coloured brocade and white lace, with bonnet *en suite*. The Earl of Yarborough acted as best man. The service was fully choral, and the officiating clergy were the Rev. E. W. Dickson, Vicar of Little Ouseburn, the Rev. C. R. Schofield, and the Rev. R. Blount. Sir Henry Pottinger gave his daughter away. Late in the afternoon Sir H. and Lady Meysey Thompson left town for Paris, en route for Italy, where they will spend their honeymoon.

The marriage of Captain Hubert Galton, R.A., and Emily Josephine, eldest daughter of the late Major-General the Hon. Sir Henry Hugh Clifford, V.C., K.C.M.G., C.B., was celebrated at the Oratory, Brompton, on Wednesday. Many relatives and friends were present at the ceremony, including the Hon. Lady Clifford and Miss Sibyl Clifford, the Earl and Countess of Denbigh, Viscount and Viscountess Feilding, Lord and Lady Clifford, Lord Petro, Hon. Mrs. Arthur, Hon. Mrs. Kavanagh, the Rev. A. Galton, Hon. Walter Maxwell, Mrs. Galton, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dalrymple, Mr. Everard L. H. Clifford, Mrs. Berkeley, and others. Mr. Howard Galton was best man to his brother, and the six bridesmaids were Lady Clare Feilding, Hon. Emma Clifford, Miss Blanche Clifford, Miss Douglas Galton, Miss Aileen Arthur, and Miss Berkeley. The bride was accompanied by her mother, the Hon. Lady Clifford, and was received at the Oratory by Lord Clifford of Chudley, her uncle, by whom she was afterwards given away. The Hon. and Right Rev. Wm. Clifford, D.D., Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton, and uncle of the bride, performed the short ceremony of marriage, and was celebrant at the nuptial mass which followed. The Rev. T. Fitzpatrick delivered the address. Afterwards the wedding party assembled at Bailey's Hotel, where breakfast was served. Later in the afternoon Captain and Mrs. Galton left for Bournemouth.

On Tuesday last, at the parish church, Penshurst, the Rev. E. Douglas L. Harvey, youngest son of the late Mr. W. J. Harvey, of Carnousie, Turf, N.B., was married to Constance Annie, younger daughter of Mr. F. C. Hills, Redleaf, Penshurst, Kent. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. G. Maberly Smith (rector of Penshurst), the Rev. G. Clowes (vicar of Fordcombe), the Rev. R. Howell Brown, and the Rev. E. Wild. The bride was given away by her father. She was attended by eight bridesmaids:—Miss Bessie Nichol, Miss Darbishire, Miss Macandrew, Miss Maud Nichol, Miss F. Harvey,

Miss Emmeline Nichol, Miss Dorothy Fitch-Kemp, and Miss Aurea Farrington. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. S. Whitbread as best man. After the service a large party of relatives and friends were entertained at Redleaf, and at five o'clock the newly-married couple set out for Folkestone, en route for the Italian Lakes.

The marriage of Mr. Henry Farnham Burke, F.S.A., Rouge Croix, eldest son of Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King at Arms, and Miss Helena Mary Ray Palmer, daughter of Mr. H. P. Palmer, of Oaklands, Pendleton, Manchester, was solemnised on Thursday in St. James's Church, Pendleton, by the Rev. G. W. Saffenreuter and Father O'Brian.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh dined with Lord and Lady Wimborne at Hamilton House, Arlington-street, on Saturday evening, when the following included the dinner-party:—His Excellency the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and Countess Karolyi, the Earl and Countess of Lathom and Lady Florence Wilbraham, the Earl of Euston, Theresa Countess of Shrewsbury, Viscount and Viscountess Hood and Hon. Miss Hood, Lord Nevill, Lady Sarah S. Churchill, Lady Randolph S. Churchill, Lady Borthwick, the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., Hon. Fitzroy Stewart, Hon. William and Mrs. Gerard, General Bateman, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Du Cane, Lady Emma Osborne and Captain Hon. D. Monson, in waiting on their Royal Highnesses. Later Lady Wimborne had an evening party to meet the Royal guests, which was numerously attended.

THE POET LAUREATE'S ADDRESS TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

The following verses by Lord Tennyson appear in the *Times*:

You—you—if you have fail'd to understand—

The Fleet of England is her all in all—

On you will come the curse of all the land,

If that Old England fall,

Which Nelson left so great—

This isle, the mightiest naval power on earth,

This one small isle, the lord of every sea—

Poor England, what would all these votes be worth,

And what avail thine ancient fame of "Free,"

Wert thou a fallen State?

You—you—who had the ordering of her Fleet,

If you have only compass'd her disgrace,

When all men starve, the wild mob's million feet

Will kick you from your place—

But then—too late, too late.

BEACONSFIELD.

"Now he lies mouldering in the dust!"

The Radicals exult to say.

But yet, his soul, all patriots trust,

Will ne'er from England pass away!

His Sovereign's friend, his people's shield;

Integrity and truth his guide;

Self-interest never made him yield;

He lives though dead, his country's pride!

Unmouney'd he his race began;

Unmouney'd he in glory died;

Once dead, to weep the nation ran,

Gladstone except (!), to his grave's side!

O bitterness, too boundless, vast:

For smallness self to comprehend,

That could not drop one tear at last,

Upon the tomb, where all feuds end!

O Beaconsfield! Our Empire's wide:

Though it endure till "crack of doom,"

Mourners shall come to weep beside

And lay primroses on thy tomb!

St. Michael Bassishaw. JOSEPH B. M'CAUL.

A Parliamentary return was issued yesterday morning relating to the sums of money advanced under sections 19 and 31 of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, to December, 1884. In Leinster there were 987 applications, and £715 was advanced under section 19, and £56,114 under section 31. Munster sent in 3,240 applications, and grants were made of £4,580 under section 19, and £126,012 under section 31. Ulster made 1,244 applications, and grants were made of £415 under section 19, and £43,638 under section 31. From Connaught 2,651 applications for loans were sent in, and there was granted £203 under section 19, and £101,793 under section 31. The total number of applications was 8,122; and the amount applied for £719,432; of this sum £333,472 was advanced according to the value of the work done by the borrowers.

A four-line whip was issued yesterday morning calling upon Conservative members to be in the House on Monday, the 27th, when the vote for the eleven millions will be brought forward; and on Thursday, the 30th, when the Budget will be considered, "as in the present critical state of affairs it is impossible to foresee what course it may be necessary to adopt."

It was stated on good authority in Dublin yesterday that the Attorney-General of Ireland, Mr. Naish, Q.C., has been appointed Lord Chancellor, the present Solicitor-General becoming Attorney-General, Mr. Piers White, Q.C., or The Macdermott, Q.C., will, it is expected, be appointed Solicitor-General.

Messrs. Boning and Small, of 22, Baker-street, Portman-square, have two remarkable portrait groups on view at their studio. The larger one comprises about 170 portraits of the members of the Royal Thames Yacht Club, the Prince of Wales as Commodore occupying the centre figure. The second painting includes the council of the members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and, as such, is a gathering of intellectual giants. All the portraits have been taken from a series of sittings extending over a course of years, and the artist has been exceedingly happy in hitting off the peculiarities of each sitter.

The next anniversary festival of the Friends of the Clergy Corporation will be held on the 29th inst. at Willis's Rooms, when the chair will be taken by the Duke of Northumberland, the president of the society.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

In future, instead of the Quarterly Prize, a Prize of One Guinea will be given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on April 4, 11, 18, and 25.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length. Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.

(SECOND MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. C uy P
2. H op E
3. I I K
4. N aom I
5. A vo N

Answers have been received from Spero, G.C.H., Paddy, Two Countesses, Iris, James Crow, Pegasus, Waddies, Conjecture, Roslyn, Etak, Chelmsford, S.M.F., M.A.E.B., Hampton Courtier, Peewit, Felix, Asphodel, Magnet, Sociable, Quill Pen, Hadji, Noremac, Sarnia, Pen, Viz, Pansy, Zulus, Evelina, Katydid, Puppod-wow, Godiva, Ketha, Land o' Nod, Mac, Kildale, and Zyx.

FIRST MONTHLY TIES.—Beam, Perservere, and Todcat have all successfully solved Acrostic No. 2. If at the end of the present Month's Acrostics no definite success is secured by either of these competitors, a Special Acrostic will be given to decide the tie.

ZYX.—You were credited with correct solution of Acrostic No. 1 (to which you sent an amendment). You failed, however, in the last Light of Acrostic No. 4.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.

(SECOND MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

The month that fulfils the promise of spring,
Far other burden than flowers may bring.

1.

"Many a fairy fereland" indeed
Is set with this and willow-weed.

2.

True in peace to its motto, Advance,
But ready to take War's glory and chance.

3.

Seasons return with it. To him no more is borne
"Day or the sweet approach of even or morn."

Mr. F. J. Dickens and the police who were with him at Fort Pitt, in the North-west of Ireland, have arrived at Battleford, bringing with them the arms and ammunition. Only one of the men at Fort Pitt, and the settlers have gone to Camp.

Thursday, the 30th inst., has been appointed for the reception of works of art intended for the Summer Exhibition of the 19th Century Art Society at the Conduit-street galleries.

The forthcoming number of the *Magazine of Art* will (says the *Athenaeum*) contain a study, by Mr. Claude Phillips, of the art of Mr. Burne Jones, with engravings of "The Wheel of Fortune," a design in illustration of the "Song of Solomon," and a "Study of Gesture and Drapery," the last in colour. To the same part Professor Colvin contributes an article on inland Suffolk, and Mr. Allingham a "Swing Song," illustrated by Miss Alice Havers.

At the next meeting of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, 3, Hanover-square, W., the following papers will be read:—"On the Past and Present Condition of Certain Rude Stone Monuments in Westmoreland," by A. L. Lewis, Esq.; "Quadrilateral Constructions near Carnac," by Rear-Admiral F. S. Tremlett; "The Keki-Sacators or Ancient Sacrificial Stone of the Northwest Tribes of Canada," by Mons. Jean L'Heureux, Government Interpreter to the Blackfeet Indians.

Some time ago Professor Virchow brought together the results of an inquiry into the relative proportions of the blond-haired, dark, and mixed types among the schoolchildren of the German Empire. Since then the inquiry has been extended to Belgium, Austria, and Switzerland, and embraces nearly eleven million children in its scope. In a lecture at the Berlin Academy of Science, Professor Virchow now shows that more than 50 per cent. of the schoolchildren of Central Europe belong to the mixed types. The distribution of the purely blond type, which contributes something over 25 per cent., and is associated with unmixed Teutonic blood, is rather curious. It is highest in Hanover, where it forms 43 per cent. of the population, but it is very nearly as high in the extreme east Prussian and Pomeranian districts, where history and tradition locate a preponderating Slavic element, and points to the completeness of the gradual industrial conquest of those regions by the Teutonic race.

The Amsterdam firm of J. Metz is busy with the erection of a special workshop, in which the cutting of the largest diamond of the world is shortly to be commenced. This diamond, which has recently been found in South Africa, weighs 475 carats, and is said to be greatly superior in colour and brilliancy to all the other famous diamonds of the world, the largest of which, the "Grand Mogul," is in the possession of the Shah of Persia, weighing, after being cut, 280 carats; next in size follows the "Orloff," of 195 carats, which adorns the point of the Emperor of Russia's sceptre; the English "Kohinoor," originally weighing 116 carats, but in its present form reduced to 102½ carats. The "Regent," one of the French Crown jewels, weighs 136½ carats. The time spent in cutting this last jewel was two years, during which time diamond powder to the value of £850 was used. The "Star of the South," which has been cut at Amsterdam, weighs 125 7-16 carats.

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